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The role of agriculture in the circular economy (perspectives for legislation and policy)

THE ROLE OF AGRICULTURE IN THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY (PERSPECTIVES FOR LEGISLATION AND POLICY)

Summary

Among concepts developed within socio-environmental sustainability debates, the circular economy framework has recently received increasing attention. It is particularly interesting from the legal perspective, because of the current actions of the European Commission fostering EU transition to the circular economy, with recently adopted a Circular Economy Package.

The aim of the article is to explore areas of theoretical and practical application of the circular economy concept to address contemporary challenges in agri-food system and identify its potential opportunities in order to enhance and optimise sustainability within the European economy by using this CE tool. It is pointed out that circular economy constitutes a useful term allowing to conceptualise the path for development of agriculture and whole economy as well, to face contemporary challenges and target environmental issues. The agricultural sector has a significant potential in the framework of circular economy, which has also been confirmed (however indirectly) in the EU's strategy on circular economy.