



**Organic Knowledge Network on Monogastric  
Animal Feed  
OK-Net EcoFeed**

**Press release at the launch of the extended  
organic farmknowledge platform**

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## Document Versions

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0.2	17 December 2018	Bram Moeskops	Comments
1.0	20 December 2018	Kata Gócs	Final Version

This deliverable contains original unpublished work except where clearly indicated otherwise. Acknowledgement of previously published material and of the work of others has been made through appropriate citation, quotation or both.

## Executive summary

This deliverable is part of the Horizon 2020 project - OK-Net EcoFeed, Work Package 1 – Project management and promotion, lead by IFOAM EU.

The overall aim of OK-Net EcoFeed (Organic Knowledge Network on Monogastric Animal Feed) is to help farmers, breeders and the organic feed processing industry in achieving the goal of 100% use of organic and regional feed for monogastrics, in particular pigs, broilers, laying hens and parents of broilers and laying hens.

The aim of this deliverable is to create visibility of the ‘new’ organic [farmknowledge platform](#) at the EU and national level.

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### I. Introduction

The Farmknowledge platform ([farmknowledge.org](http://farmknowledge.org)) was launched within the H2020 project [OK-Net Arable](#) in October 2016. The platform aims at filling the gap in the exchange of information between farmers, farm advisers and scientists across Europe. Indeed, the complexity of organic farming requires farmers to have a very high level of knowledge and skills but exchange on organic farming techniques remains limited.

On 1 January 2018, the OK-Net EcoFeed project started. OK-Net EcoFeed continues the work of the platform and will further improve and expand it with several new features (e.g.: events calendar, news sections) and a new theme ‘Animal Husbandry’. The platform got a new design and a more user-friendly look.

The development and maintenance of the platform is the responsibility of FiBL, but all the partners of OK-Net EcoFeed will contribute.

All the collected knowledge and materials within the OK-Net EcoFeed project will be uploaded to the platform.

The new version of the platform (even if its online since 19 Dec 2018) will be launched on 15 February 2019 on the world’s biggest organic trade fair, Biofach (Nuremberg, Germany). At that occasion a press release will be sent out. IFOAM EU will send it to European media. Other partners will send a translated version to their national media.

### II. Press release: New version of the Organic Farmknowledge platform



PRESS RELEASE: New version of the Organic Farmknowledge platform

**BIOFACH, NUREMBERG (Germany), 15 FEBRUARY 2019** –A new version of the Organic Farmknowledge platform was launched at the TP Organics’ Science Day at BIOFACH 2019. Organic Farmknowledge hosts a

wide range of practical knowledge and tools for organic farmers and advisers that can help improve farming practices.

Bram Moeskops, Research & Innovation Manager, at IFOAM EU said: “The complexity of organic farming requires farmers to have a very high level of knowledge and skills. But exchange on organic farming techniques remains limited. Organic Farmknowledge aims to fill this gap and has the ambition to become the main resource for practical, farmer-oriented knowledge on organic farming in Europe.”

A first version of the platform - with focus on organic arable cropping - was launched in October 2016. Funded by the Horizon 2020 project OK-Net Ecofeed, FiBL, IFOAM EU and ICROFS have taken the platform to a higher level with a new design and extended content. The new platform will cover more themes such as animal husbandry and organic plant breeding.

Helga Willer, Group Leader Dissemination & Outreach at FiBL, said: “Recently several projects have started that produce very relevant knowledge for organic farmers. Practice-oriented materials from these projects such as videos, decision-support tools, guidelines, reports will continuously be uploaded on the platform.” Organic Farmknowledge is collaborating with Horizon 2020 projects (OK-Net EcoFeed, LIVESEED, RELACS, Remix, FuturEUAqua) as well as with the ERA-Net CORE Organic.

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**Notes for editors:**

The core organisations behind Organic Farmknowledge are IFOAM EU, FiBL and ICROFS. Further partner organizations are AIAB, Bioland, CIHEAM-IAMB and ORC. Together these organisations form the Board of Organic Farmknowledge. The Board is in charge of strategic development of the platform, establishing quality criteria, and securing maintenance and continuity of the platform.

OK-Net EcoFeed aims at helping organic pig and poultry farmers in achieving the goal of 100% use of organic and regional feed. The project is financed by Horizon 2020, the EU’s main funding instrument for research and innovation. OK-Net EcoFeed started in January 2018 and will run until December 2020.

**Links:**

Organic farmknowledge platform: <https://organic-farmknowledge.org/>  
OK-Net EcoFeed website: <https://ok-net-ecofeed.eu/>

### III. Final observations

The new version of the [Organic Farmknowledge platform](#) was ready and online on 19 December 2018.

The Steering Committee of OK-Net EcoFeed has however agreed to do the official launch of the platform in February 2019 at [Biofach](#), Germany. The 4-day event is the biggest organic trade fair in the world. Launching the new platform at BioFach instead of a few days before the holiday season, will attract more visibility in the sector.