

FiBL's position to nanotechnology

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Evaluation of nanotechnology/-products

- › OF principles
 - › no principle objection as with GMO
- › Origin
 - › principally, existing standards applicable
 - › manufacturing processes involved in Nano-products must be evaluated

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Evaluation of nano-products

- › Necessity
 - › need provide a benefit in the context of organic farming, product and use specific
- › Human health
 - › absence of adverse effects on human health
 - › attention to altered mobility in the human body
 - › lack of insight
- › Environment
 - › absence of adverse effects on the environment
 - › attention to altered mobility in the environment
 - › but: lack of information on ecotoxicological effects of nano-products

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Evaluation of nano-products

- › Traditional use, public perception etc.
 - › no traditional use although nano-coatings have already been used for some time
 - › public perception is as yet not a big issue
 - › rigorous case-by-case evaluation
- › Authorisation for general use
 - › necessity of clear differentiation with regard to nanotechnology and nano-products respectively
 - › necessity of clarification of risks, risk assessment for the whole life cycle, independent research on risks
 - › obligation for declaration
 - › application of precautionary principle
 - › need for regulation

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Precautionary principle

- › "The precautionary principle applies where scientific evidence is insufficient, inconclusive or uncertain and preliminary scientific evaluation indicates that there are reasonable grounds for concern that the potentially dangerous effects on the environment, human, animal or plant health may be inconsistent with the high level of protection chosen by the EU".

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