

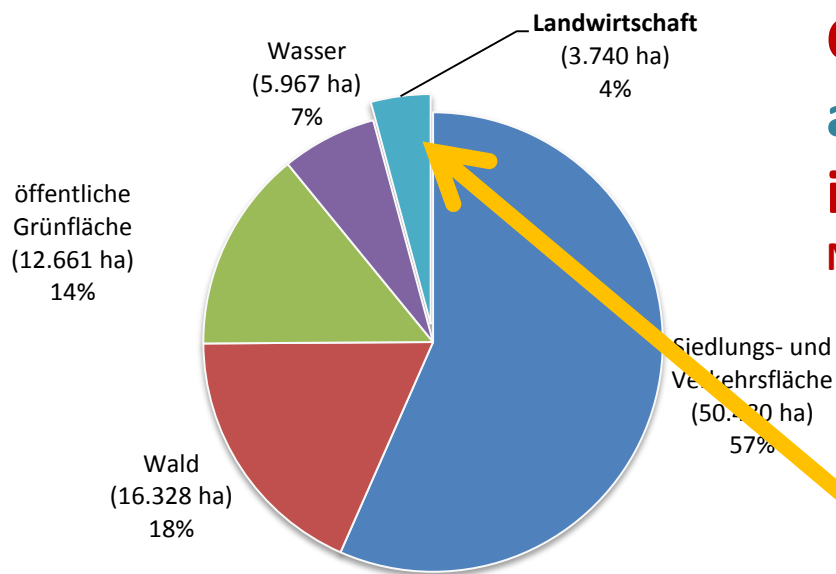
# Recovery and recycling options for urban P

Dr Christian Kabbe

4<sup>th</sup> SPS, Montpellier 1-3 Sep 2014



**Berlin 89.176 ha**



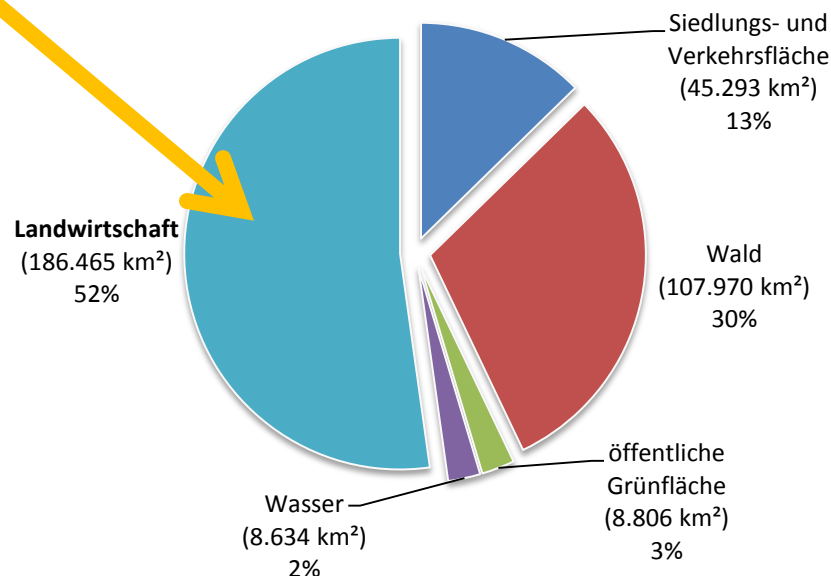
**Berlin 2012/13:**  
**~85 Mg P in form**  
**of mineral fertilizer sold!**

**56 farmers (3740 ha)**

**74,526 garden plots (3064 ha)**  
**(Market potential study BWB)**

**Compared to national average,**  
**agriculture does not play an**  
**important role in Berlin!**  
**Not a relevant market for fertilizers!**

**Germany 357.169 km<sup>2</sup>**



**Mineral fertilizer sales in Brandenburg  
quantity in 2012: 3754 Mg P  
(90% multi nutrient, 10% P fertilizer)**

**~ 70% of Brandenburgs P  
in mineral fertilizer could  
be covered by wastewater  
P made in Berlin!**



Sludge mono-incineration in Berlin Ruhleben, Donat®



Waste stream	P load [Mg P/a]	Recycled today? [Mg P/a]
Wastewater/sludge	2.841	40
Organic fraction in municipal waste (42%)	297	no
Household composting	79	206 (compost)
BIOGUT	24	
Commercial organic waste	62	
Green waste and lop	41	
Horse dung	13	13
Wood ash	51	no
<b>Total P</b>	<b>3,408</b>	<b>259</b>

No slaughterhouses in Berlin -> no meat and bone meal

Municipal waste incineration ash: 0.3% P

*Kabbe, Bäger and Mancke 2014*

Total P load (influent) treated by BWB: 2.841 Mg P

from Berlin  
2.452 Mg P

86 %

14 %

from Brandenburg  
389 Mg P

**Struvite recovery  
limited to dissolved  
ortho-P and therefore  
not competing with P  
recovery from i.e. ash  
but complementary**

Loss to surface water  
90 Mg P

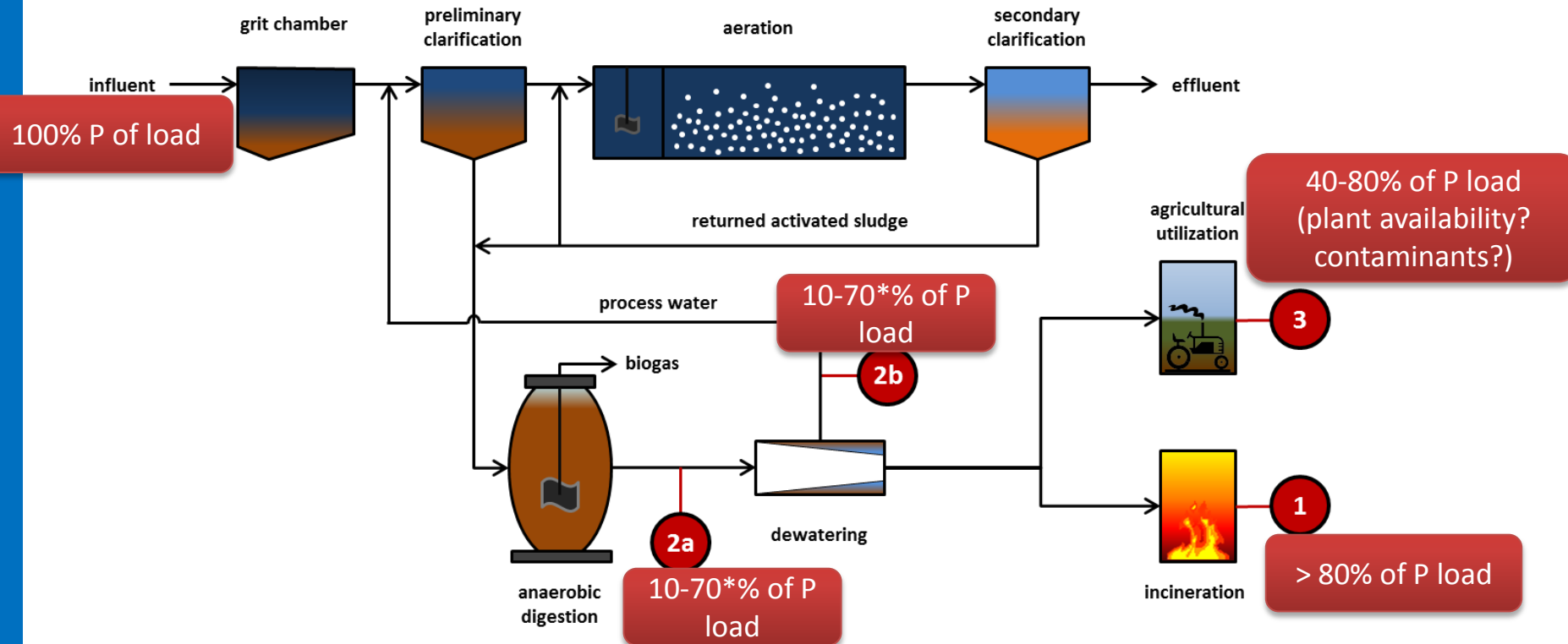
Struvite  
40 Mg P

Sewage sludge  
2.711 Mg P



*Kabbe, Bäger and Mancke 2014*

# Hot spots for P recovery in WWTP

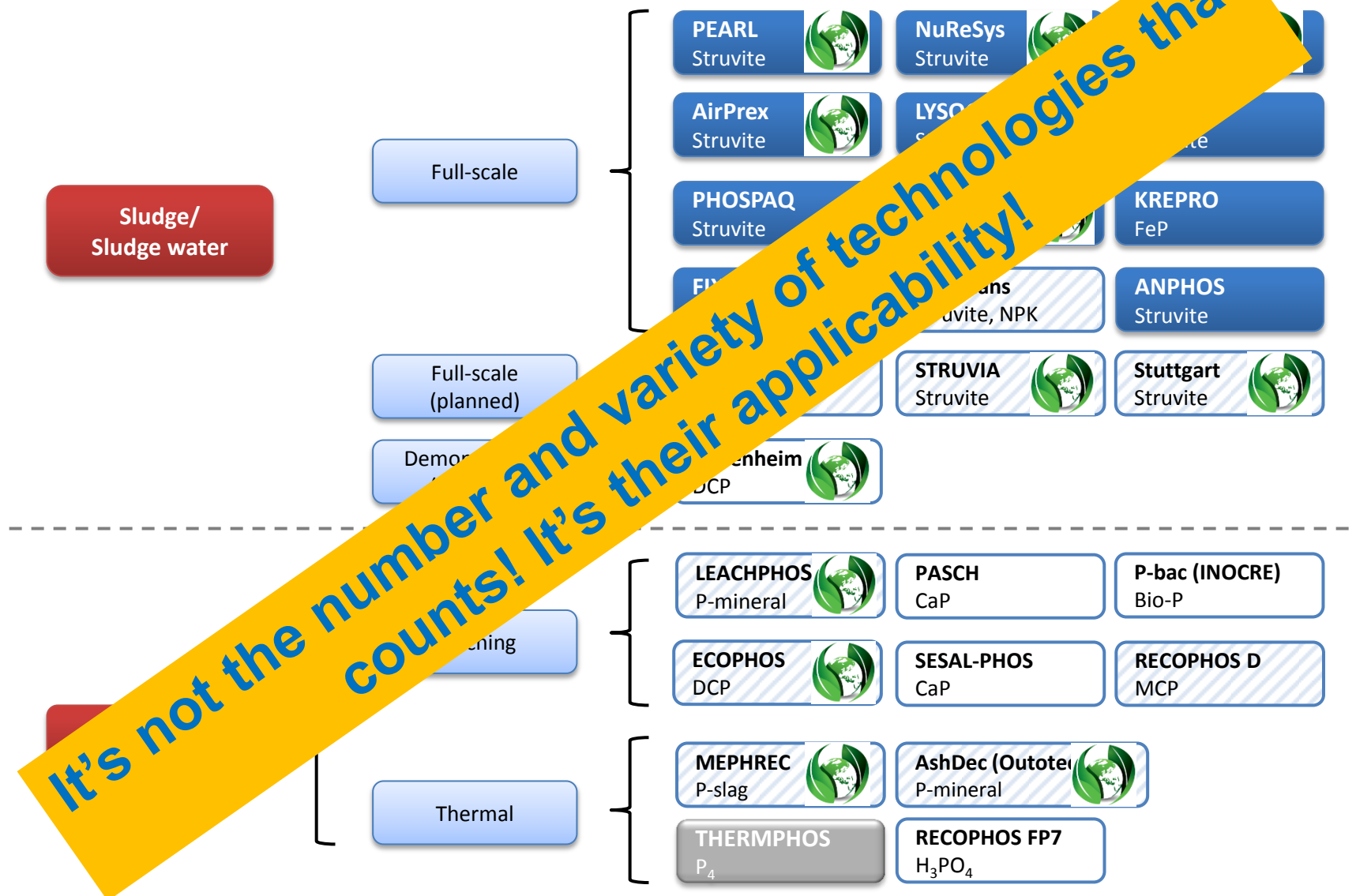


(amended from Montag 2010)

- 1** ash after incineration
- 2a** undrained sludge after anaerobic digestion
- 2b** sludge liquor after dewatering
- 3** direct agricultural utilisation of dewatered sludge

\*High recovery rate only after enforced P extraction from solid phase





## The **MAGIC** of **STRUVITE** ( $\text{MgNH}_4\text{PO}_4 \times 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ )

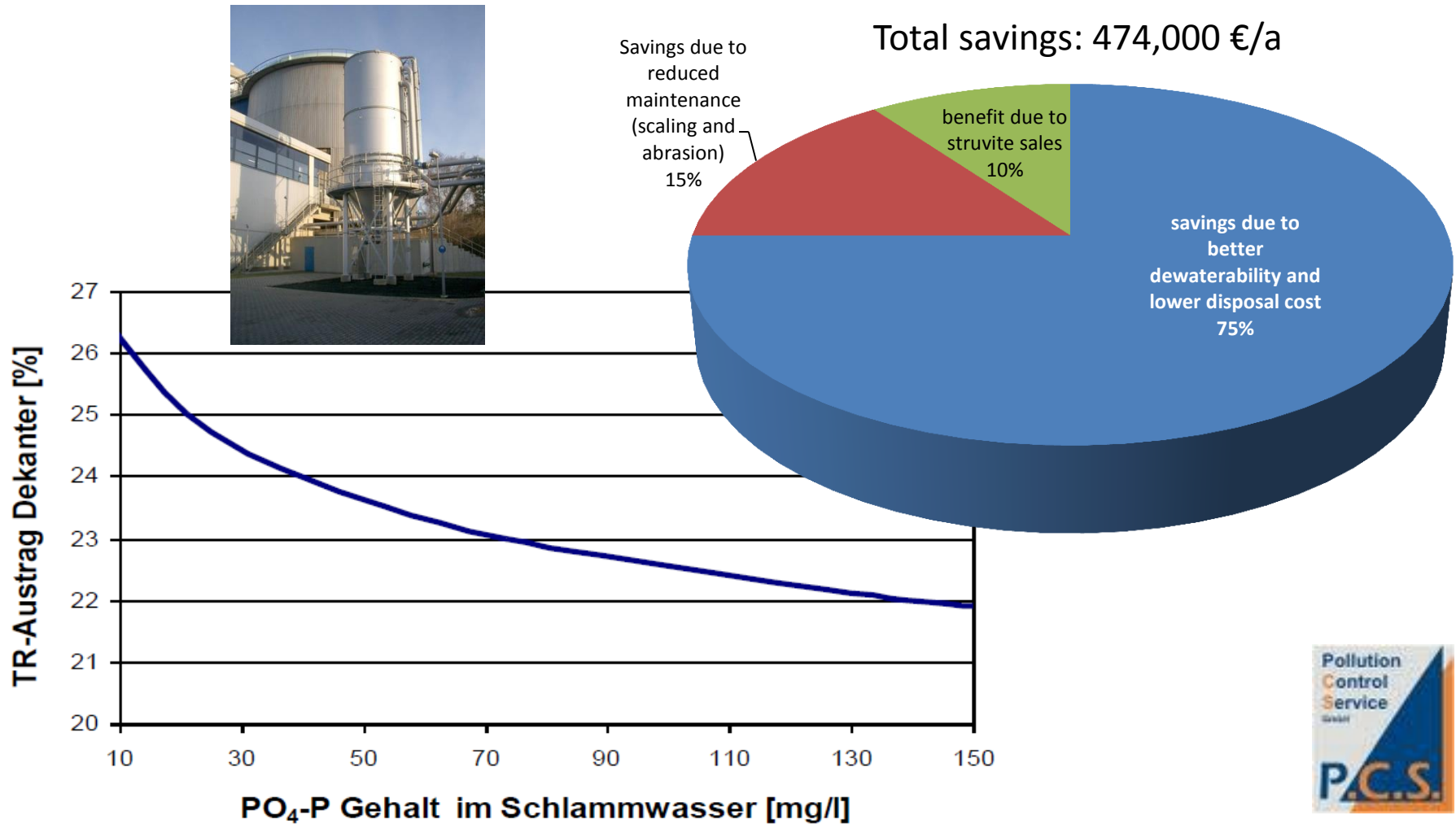


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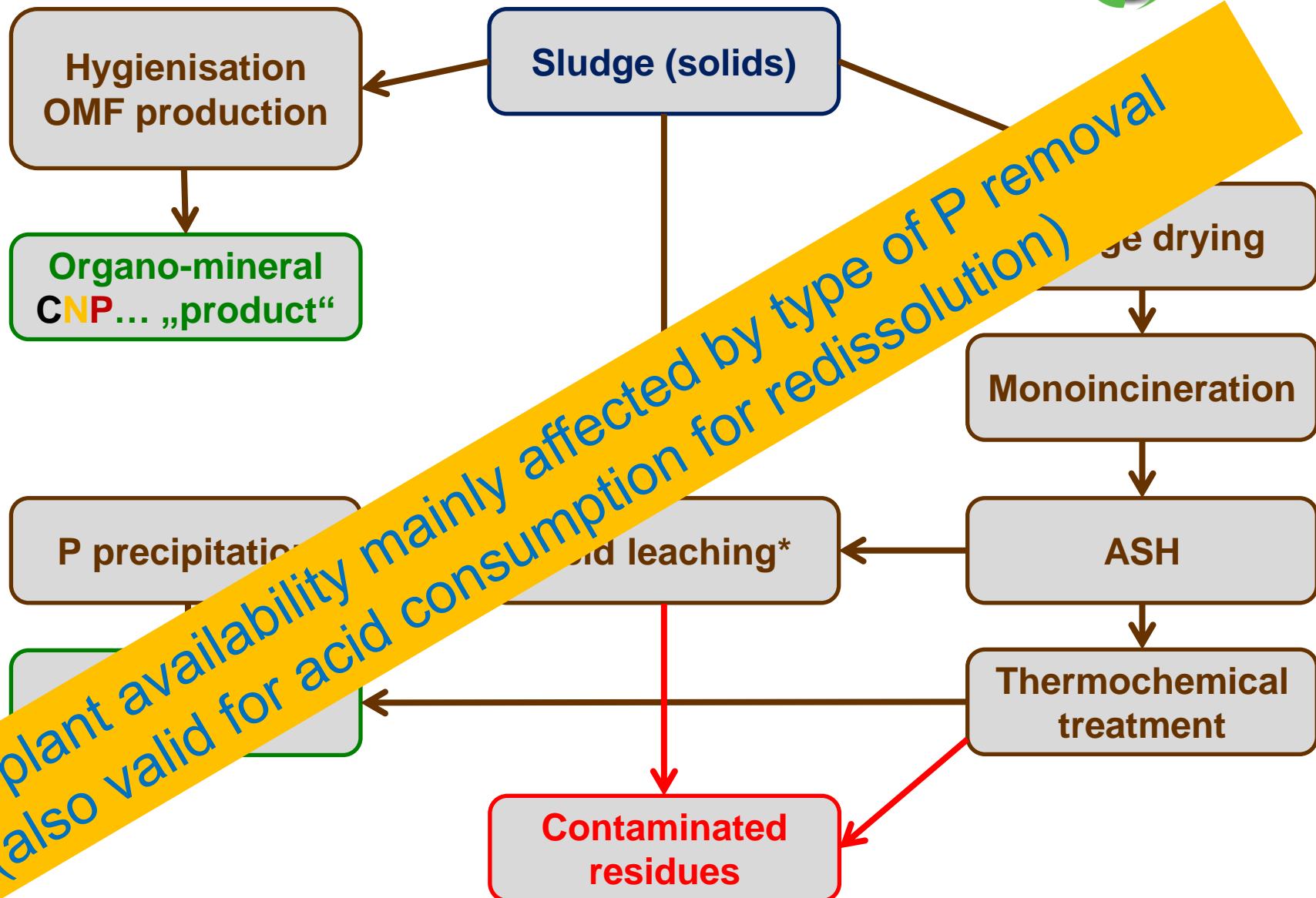
www.ostara.com/sloughUK

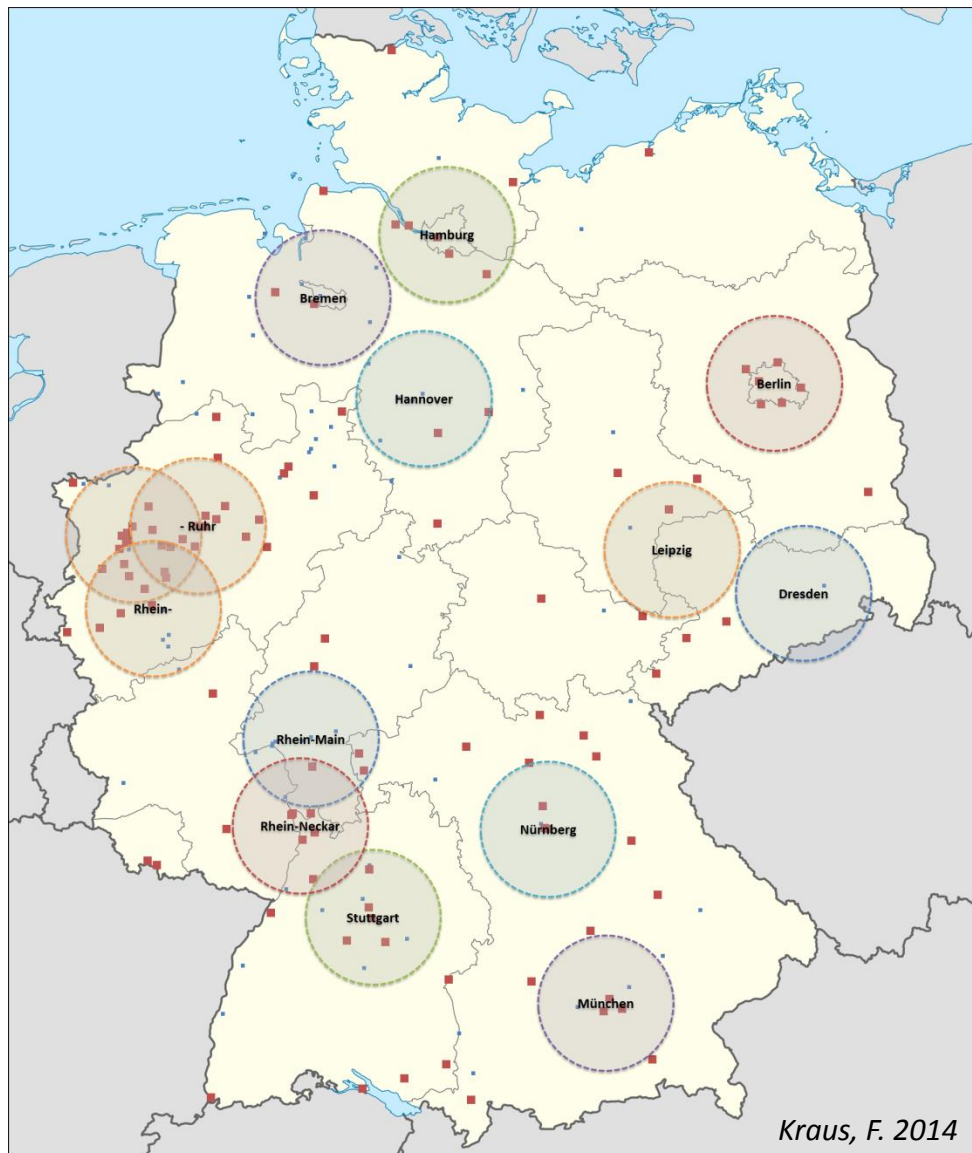


The practical example of WWTP Neuwerk (Niersverband)



Sources: Niersverband and P.C.S.

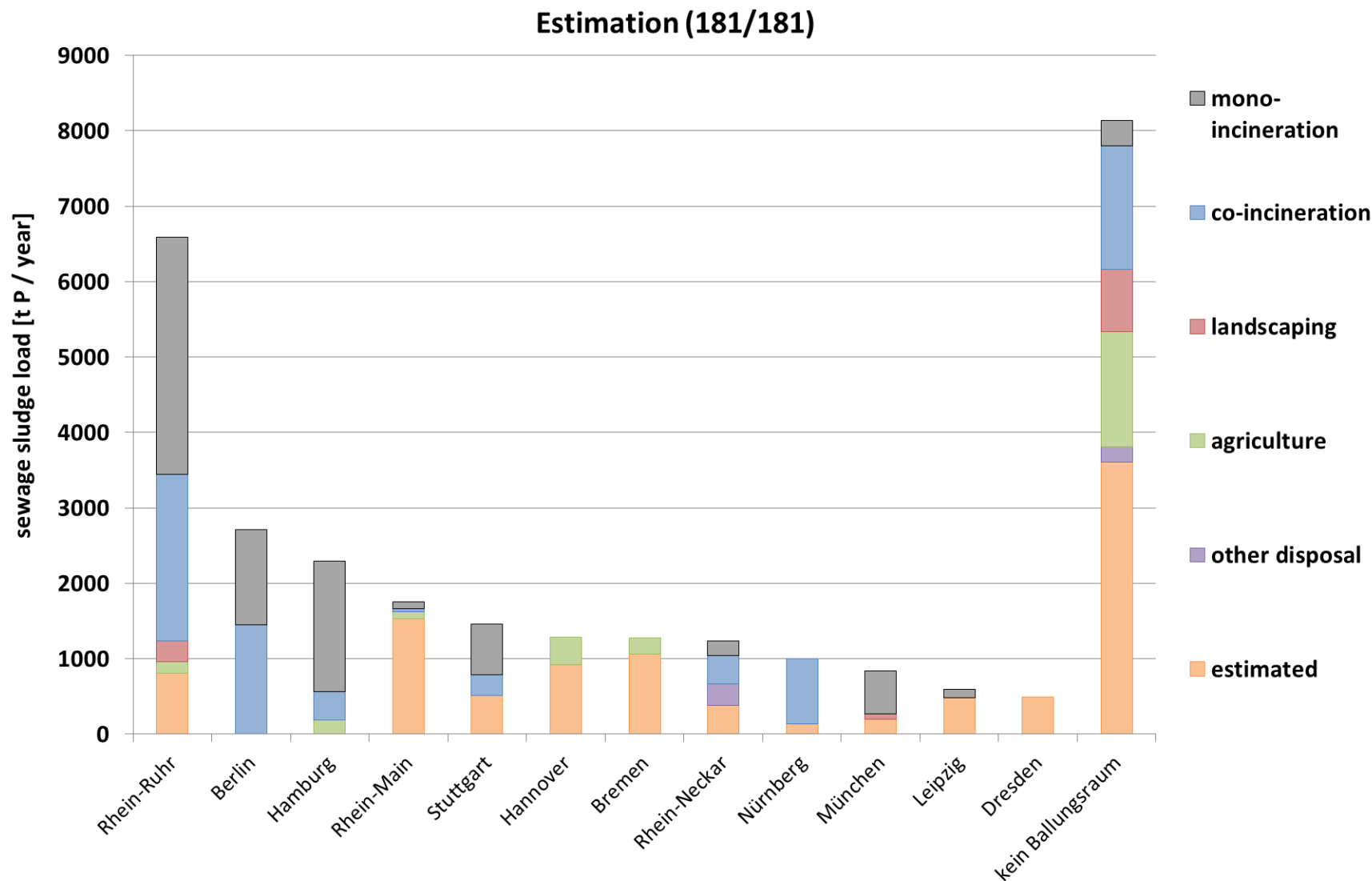




## Mapping in clusters:

- ca. 72,6 % of phosphorus in sewage sludge of GK 5 accrue in these clusters (min 21.500 t P/a to max 29.700 t P/a)
  - 103 wastewater treatment plants (56,9 % of class 5)
  - ca.  $47,1 \cdot 10^6$  inhabitant equivalents (86,4 %)
  - ca.  $3 \cdot 10^9$  m<sup>3</sup> wastewater treated per year (74 %)

181 GK5 WWTP in Germany



Kraus, F. 2014

- Enabling **Technologies**: proof of concept and feasibility? Suitable infrastructure? Regional conditions? But, recovery alone is not recycling!
- $P_{rec}$  **products**: real market requirements beyond legal baseline? (other side)
  - No market without endusers and products!





- Registration at ECHA (European Chemicals Agency) for substances and compounds (chemicals) produced/traded in EU in quantities:
  - $\geq 1000$  t/a since 01.12.2010
  - $\geq 100$  t/a since 01.06.2013
  - $\geq 1$  t/a from 01.06.2018

*What about national interpretation of recovered/recycled „products“?*

- Struvite successfully registered by BWB (lead registrant) last summer
  - One market obstacle was taken by registration
  - Co-registration much easier and far less expensive for struvite producers/traders now
  - Dossiers for co-registration can be accessed through Berliner Wasserbetriebe (LOA Letter of Access)



**National interpretations of EU legislation!**

- Paradigm shift: **waste** streams are “**renewable resources**” ...
- **Enabling technologies** for P recovery **available** (and feasible)
- **Only** techs providing **marketable** intermediates or **products likely for recycling**
- Make **smart use of existing infrastructure** instead of reinventing the wheel
- Current **motivation** for implementation: **operational benefits** and security of supply (company level)
- **Legal framework needs more reliability and harmonization (Targets??? example CO<sub>2</sub>)**
- **Struvite** is a **pioneer** substance paving the road **for other recyclates!**
- **Nutrient recycling value chains:** It's not the job of WWTP operators to become fertilizer manufacturers and/or retailers! -> **multi-stakeholder business models**

- **Every kg P counts! Bottleneck of life (limits the biomass potential)! (food or energy?)**
- **Bridging the gap between supply (recovery) and demand (recycling)**

**“Knowing is not enough; we must apply.  
Willing is not enough; we must do.”**

*>> Johann Wolfgang v. Goethe <<*

- **Technology alone won't save the world!!!**
- **It's up to every one of us knowing and willing to apply and do by using opportunities already at hand!!!**

- Finalized in October 2013 in EN online at VIMEO since November 2013
- Additional languages with subtitles online since February 2014

CZ: <http://vimeo.com/84936506>

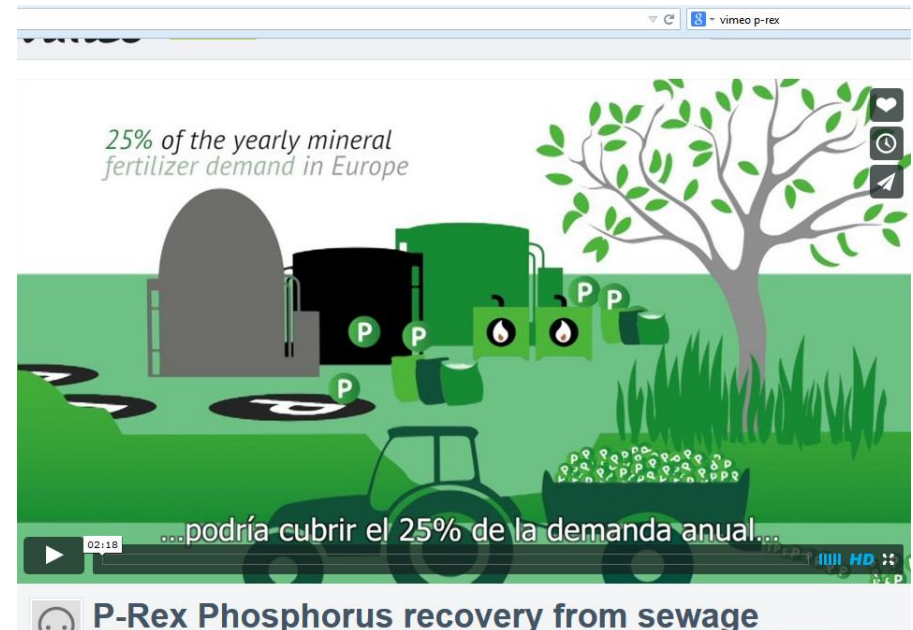
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Overview: <http://vimeo.com/user22393541/videos>



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# Thank you!

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