

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BIOSCHAMP project: Two Complementary Circular Materials for Mushroom Casing Soil



Figure 1: Sustainable mushrooms from BIOSCHAMP project.

Madrid, Spain – August 2024 – With the goal of creating the casing soil of the future, the **BIOSCHAMP project has been working diligently to select raw materials to develop casing soils with minimal environmental impact.** After recent validation trials in diverse mushroom farms across Europe, **two complementary circular materials, grass and moss, were identified as promising.**

1. The validation trials were rigorous, testing control casing soils (100% peat) against alternative casing soils
2. The mushrooms grown in moss + peat and grass + peat were virtually indistinguishable in quality from those grown in 100% peat
3. **BIOSCHAMP organises its [final event](#) next 5th of September in Madrid (Spain),** where details on the project results will be discussed.

Serbia's Ekofungi: A Tradition of Organic Excellence

In Serbia, [Ekofungi](#) stands as a beacon of organic mushroom production. Using compost made from pure horse manure and traditional composting methods, Ekofungi prides itself on producing top-quality mushrooms. The trials here were rigorous, testing control (100% peat) against the alternative soils. Remarkably, the mixtures containing grass and peat emerged as the star performer at Ekofungi, yielding high-quality mushrooms with lower infection rates compared to both control and moss-peat mixtures. The results were clear: Ekofungi could embrace this new mixture without compromising their organic integrity.

Poland's UGLK: High standards of cultivation

Nestled near the serene Bolimów National Park, UGLK's modern mushroom farm conducted its trials with a keen eye on sustainability. In UGLK, the alternative casing soils produced mushrooms of excellent quality, rivalling those grown in traditional peat. UGLK advises to pre-wet and mix the casing soils carefully before application, thereby ensuring a uniform structure that is absolutely crucial for maintaining high standards of cultivation.

Spain's Eurochamp: A Legacy of Quality

[Eurochamp](#), a cooperative with five decades of expertise in mushroom cultivation and canning, participated in these groundbreaking trials. Their findings were promising: productivity levels in alternative soils matched

those of traditional peat, with some trials even showing higher yields in grass + peat. The cooperative's 140 members, who are also growers, can now look forward to a sustainable option that doesn't sacrifice the quality Eurochamp is known for.

A Promising Future: The Final Event of The BIOSCHAMP Project

Across Europe, the BIOSCHAMP validation trials have painted a hopeful picture for the future of mushroom cultivation, by identifying two complementary circular materials, grass and moss, for use casing soil. Further research will have to turn out if these alternative casing soils can also serve the diverse needs of growers worldwide. Can these alternative casing soils offer tailored needs in different densities and moisture levels while maintaining its strong focus on hygiene standards and food safety?

Would you like to know more about the project, its results, and its outlook to the future? BIOSCHAMP is organising its final event next September 5th in Madrid (Spain). Register now to save your spot! Attendance is free of charge, but capacity is limited. Register now at <https://bioschamp.eu/final-event>.

[Media Kit available here!](#)

About BIOSCHAMP

The [BIOSCHAMP](#) project aims to develop an integrated approach to tackle the mushroom cultivation challenges: an alternative and sustainable low-peat casing for the mushroom industry, reducing the need for pesticides and contributing to improving the productivity, sustainability, and the profitability of the European mushroom sector.

Social media: [Twitter @BIOSCHAMP](#) & [LinkedIn @BIOSCHAMP](#)

For more information about the BIOSCHAMP project and its outcomes, please visit the website <https://bioschamp.eu/> or contact **Marga Pérez (BIOSCHAMP project coordinator)** direccion@ctich.com and **Daniel Gallardo (BIOSCHAMP Dissemination and Communication responsible)** daniel.gallardo@innovarum.es



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