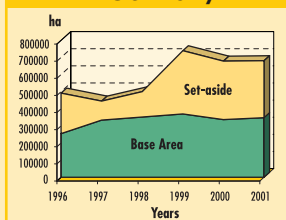


# MARKET INTRODUCTION OF RENEWABLE RESOURCES BASED PRODUCTS IN GERMANY



**Renewable Resources  
in Germany**



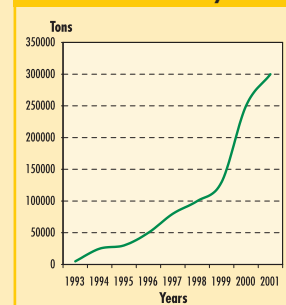
In Germany, renewable raw material (RRM) related research and development has been promoted for more than twenty years. Since 1993, the Federal Government alone, via the Ministry of Consumer Protection and the Fachagentur Nachwachsende Rohstoffe, has supported more than 1000 R&D projects with around 237 million €.

But positive R&D results are only an important first step for increasing the utilisation of renewable raw materials. Besides the technical performance, other essentials for market success are the economic competitiveness of the products, the capability of industry to take up the results and the acceptance by the consumer.

The government has several possibilities to go beyond funding of R&D. It can help to improve the legal framework and to develop standards for RRM based products. And it can support the market introduction in specific applications. In Germany, a market introduction programme for biofuels and biolubricants (MEP) has been launched in 2000. The programme has an annual budget of 10.22 million € and will include other application areas in the near future. Three examples may illustrate the current situation in Germany:



**Biodiesel Production  
in Germany**



## BIOLUBRICANTS

- German market for lubricants and hydraulic fluids: 1.06 million tons.
- Biolubricants: 45,000 tons

### MEP activities biolubricants:

- Covers new and used machinery in agriculture, forestry, and environmentally sensitive areas as well as water related machinery and plants (sluices, locks etc.).
- Covers additional costs of oil filling/oil change with biolubricants
- Measures to improve the consumer awareness and acceptance of biolubricants.
- More than 360 projects have been funded so far
- Active promotion by the lubricants and machinery industry.

## LIQUID BIOFUELS

- is the main market for RRM in 2002
- German Biodiesel production capacity 533,000 tons at the beginning of 2002
- Considerable further expansion is envisaged.
- Main incentive: non taxation of unblended biofuels
- Specific government action to promote the use of biofuels in agriculture, forestry and environmentally sensitive areas.
- In the frame of the MEP, 50 % of the building costs of internal filling stations for the above mentioned sectors are supported.

## BIOPLASTICS

- German consumption of short lived applications of polymers 2.6 million tons p.a.
- Bioplastics can reduce the waste mountains, but have to fit in a complex production, disposal and recycling system.
- Through a decade of intense research and development, performance of compostable packaging is now equal to traditional plastics.
- The world's largest test market to apply compostable packaging has been taking place in Kassel, Germany, since 2001.
- A wide range of products made from biodegradable polymers is distributed by retailers, disposed by consumers after use via the biobin, and used to generate compost.
- The project is financed jointly by the Federal Ministry of Consumer Protection and leading companies of the biopolymers industry.

## CONCLUSION

- Positive experience with market introduction programme (MEP).
- MEP is an important instrument to bridge the gap between R&D and the market for RRM based products.

### Further information:

[www.fnr.de](http://www.fnr.de) • [www.pflanzenoel-initiative.de](http://www.pflanzenoel-initiative.de) • [www.modellprojekt-kassel.de](http://www.modellprojekt-kassel.de)

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