News Release

P197/26e
November 20, 2026

BASF's ecovio® supports CE-compliant soil-biodegradable mulch films under EU Fertilising Products Regulation 2019/1009

- **Comprehensive material testing helps manufacturers to prepare conformity assessments and apply for CE marking of mulch films**
- **ecovio® combines regulatory support, access to the European market and a practical end-of-life solution in agriculture**

BASF's biopolymer ecovio® supports the development of certified soil-biodegradable mulch films that meet the requirements for CE marking in accordance with EU Regulation 2019/1009 on fertilising products. Manufacturers can use BASF's material test package on certified (acc. to EN 17033) soil-biodegradable ecovio® M2351 as supporting evidence when assessing the conformity of their finished products and applying for CE marking. This gives them greater regulatory clarity, enables access to the European market and promotes agricultural practices in which mulch films biodegrade in soil after use.

The EU Fertilising Products Regulation 2019/1009 defines biodegradability and ecotoxicity requirements for polymers used for soil-biodegradable mulch films. The polymers must demonstrate biodegradation in agricultural soil and in aquatic environments within specified timeframes and under recognized test methods. They must also pass tests designed to confirm that neither the polymer nor the products from biodegradation cause adverse effects on plants, earthworms or soil, including microorganisms, under foreseeable use conditions. ecovio® is designed to help mulch film manufacturers to meet these requirements. BASF's soil biodegradation

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and ecotoxicity data can support the conformity assessment of finished products. After usage, mulch films made of ecovio® M2351 can be biodegraded by naturally occurring microorganisms into carbon dioxide, water and biomass (as specified in biodegradation standard EN 17033).

Supporting agricultural performance with regulatory compliance and certified biodegradation

“BASF is committed to supporting the agricultural value chain with biopolymers that combine performance, certified biodegradation and regulatory compliance,” says Antonella Pizzolante, responsible for the Agriculture segment within BASF Biopolymers. “With ecovio®, we help our customers to develop mulch films that meet the requirements of the EU Fertilising Products Regulation and that can qualify for CE marking. This enables farmers and food producers to adopt more responsible practices while contributing to soil health.” Certified soil-biodegradable mulch films made of ecovio® have been used and assessed in agriculture for many years. After harvest, farmers can plough the films into the soil. This saves collection and disposal of the mulch films as well as time and money. It also helps to reduce the risk of persistent plastic residues in agricultural soil associated with non-biodegradable mulch films made of polyethylene (PE).

ecovio® M2351 for soil-biodegradable mulch films

BASF’s ecovio® M2351 is a compound developed specifically for soil-biodegradable mulch films. Certified according to EN 17033, it can be processed on conventional film-extrusion equipment and enables thin, high-performing mulch films for a wide range of crops and climatic conditions. These mulch films can increase yield, enable earlier harvesting, reduce water and herbicide use, as well as simplify end-of-life management.

More information: www.ecovio.basf.com/mulchfilm

About BASF’s Performance Materials division

BASF’s Performance Materials division drives the transformation of the plastics industry by uniting sustainability with high performance. Our materials expertise, deep industry know-how, and broad product portfolio make us the preferred partner for comprehensive solutions across the plastics lifecycle. With dedicated material-focused teams, strong R&D power, and a global production

network close to our customers, we deliver tailored offerings that meet regional and industry-specific needs. Our products enhance performance and efficiency in key sectors such as automotive, construction, consumer goods, and industrial applications. Together with our partners, we embark on #OurPlasticsJourney towards a more circular and sustainable future. In 2025, the Performance Materials division achieved global sales of €6.4 billion. Join #OurPlasticsJourney on LinkedIn https://on.basf.com/PM_LinkedIn and in our newsletter https://on.basf.com/PM_Newsletter. Further information at https://www.performance-materials.basf.com.

About BASF

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