

Reuse of agro-industrial (vegetable processing) wastewater in agriculture. Full-scale tertiary treatment (4500 P.E.)





# **Description of the case study**

Poject's name	Country	City	Start Date-End Date	Water Sources	Uses
Agroindustrial ww reuse	Italy	Stornarella (FG)	2012 -	Treated agroindustrial wastewater	Irrigation
itewater oil activat	ted sludge process		Sources		
equaliz	air	settling	rigin	Agro-industrial wastewater	
	O	••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	ater reused (m <sup>3</sup> /Y)	1000 ÷ 2000	
feed tank filtration thrift			Uses		
backwashing			Crops	Tomato and Broccoli (cabbage)	
			rrigated Area (Ha)	0,3	
			<b>Cost of the Cubic meter (€/m<sup>3</sup>)</b> $0,2 \div 0,4$		0,4
and the second s		<u>_</u>	Water	ater Reuse Chain	
and the second s		The second se	Freatment	Activated sludge, tertiary sa filtration	and and membrane
		Dis	Disinfection	Membrane ultrafiltration,	UV (on-demand)
			rrigation	Drip	
		CHIII MARK	Storage Capacity (m <sup>3</sup> )	Tanks (20 r	m <sup>3</sup> )

MULTI STAKEHOLDERS ROUNDTABLE : WASTE WATER REUSE, TIME FOR SOLUTIONS



#### How do I illustrate the question:

Which practices, technologies and institutional framework to create effective, safe and cost effective water reuse chain?

### For reuse in irrigation

Membrane ultrafiltration (MBR or tertiary filtration) allows to comply with standards for reuse with no need of disinfection.

Cloth filtration (disk filters, etc.), followed by UV disinfection, represents a cost effective tertiary treatment scheme.

Nitrogen conservation by performing only nitrification (no denitrification) limits the needs of external fertilization.

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## How do I illustrate the question:

Can we successfully reuse raw or low treated waste water?

### For reuse in irrigation

No need to remove nitrogen (algal blooms in storage tanks can be controlled by removing phosphorus).

Fecal contamination indicators (E. Coli) have a very limited persistence in topsoil and on plants, and their movement through the soil is overcome by bacterial decay.

Vergine et al. (2015) Fate of the fecal indicator *Escherichia coli* in irrigation with partially treated wastewater. <u>Water Research</u>, 85, 66-73.

- Partially treated wastewater can safely be used for irrigation;
- Current standards are often too strict and imply costly overtreatment.