



First version of TEB (D1.6)

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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement N°776541

NextGen – TEB structure



1



TEB address: <http://83.212.98.29:8102/>

The first version is presented on a preliminary webpage. The intension is to show the first version to the project partners especially to Water Europe, who will host the TEB after NextGen will have finished. After their feedback, the updated version will move to the NextGen homepage until the TEB is finalized.

For the first version, only one factsheet was uploaded as an example. However, the other 23 factsheets are already prepared and in revision.

NextGen - Title of the presentation

2



Elaboration of factsheets and reviews

- 24 factsheets were prepared by the CTG leaders
- Correspondingly to the case study applying the technology described in the factsheet, each factsheet was sent to the CS leader and/or the responsible CS partner for that technology and further elaborated.
- Finally, a review of the factsheets was conducted by
 - Jan Hofman (University of Bath),
 - Fabian Kraus and Christian Remy (KWB) and
 - Xavier Martínez and Irene Jubany (EURCAT)

NextGen - Title of the presentation

3

NextGen Interactive Platform

nextGen MP
The Marketplace is the environment in which the interested parties can find information regarding successful implementations, design of products and implementation of innovative solutions, aiming at dissemination and promotion for potential adoption and replication in similar environments, in order to solve all or part of their problem.

nextGen TEB
The Technology Evidence Base provides information on what methods are available regarding technical solutions for the circular economy transition, what has already been applied and tested under different contexts and what were the main lessons learned.

nextGen Toolkit
The toolkit consists of a series of tools that support decision-making through individual solution assessment, system-wide evaluation and stress testing. It also comprises information on outputs of the models, databases, the relationships based on user experiences, etc.

NextGen AR


Taxonomy of Technologies

The NextGen Interactive Platform is an online, flexible and adaptable system to search for or share information about innovative and transformational circular economy solutions and systems that challenge embedded thinking and practices around resource use in the water sector.


The purpose is that these technologies enhance our ability to recover, refine, reuse, repurpose, capture value from, and extend the use-life of, an ever-increasing range of resources and products, in order to develop the necessary approaches, tools and partnerships, to transfer and upscale.

This Interactive Platform consists of three parts: A Marketplace, a Technology Evidence Base and a Toolkit, all provided through a unified web-based environment.


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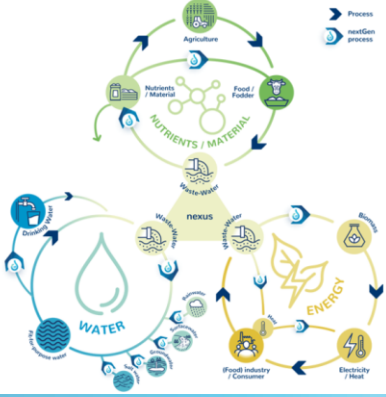
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Search Technology/Product

Resource for Circular Economy



Narrower Technologies

- Nutrients/Material recovery technologies
- Energy recovery technologies
- Water recovery technologies for water reuse

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nextGen Circular Water Solutions

Search Technology/Product

My list

Resource for Circular Economy

Narrower Technologies

- Nutrients/Material recovery technologies
- Energy recovery technologies
- Water recovery technologies for water reuse

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nextGen Toolkit

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Search Technology/Product

Nutrients/Material recovery technologies

Broader Technologies

- Resource for Circular Economy

Narrower Technologies

- Nutrient recovery
- Food/fodder production technologies
- Material recovery technologies

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80%

Nutrients/Material recovery technologies

Process nextGen process

Broader Technologies

- Resource for Circular Economy

Narrower Technologies

- Nutrient recovery
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nextGen MP nextGen Technology Conference Data

nextGen Circular Water Solutions

83.212.98.29:8102/d/technology/1078

70%

Nutrient recovery

Process nextGen process

Broader Technologies

- Nutrients/Material recovery technologies

Narrower Technologies

- Nutrient recovery via rapid composting
- Nutrient recovery via ion exchange and HfMC
- Nutrient recovery via MELISSA advanced separation technology
- (H4)2SO4 production (air stripping & scrubbing)
- (H4)2SO4 production (membrane stripping/ HfMC)
- PK-fertilizer production
- Struvite production

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nextGen MP nextGen Technology Conference Data nextGen Toolkit

nextGen Circular Water Solutions

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nextGen MP

nextGen TEB

nextGen Toolkit

Nutrient recovery

Process nextGen process

Broader Technologies

- Nutrients/Material recovery technologies

Narrower Technologies:

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Struvite production

Material recovery

Unique selling points

- High phosphorus removal and recovery rates related to the influent to the recovery unit of up to 95%
- High quality product which can be used in agriculture as slow release fertilizer
- Reduced struvite scaling in pipes and pumps
- Significant reduction of the phosphorus return load

Capacity

PE: > 100.000; Flowrate: ≥ 60 m³/h

Description of the technology

In the wastewater sector struvite is usually used as a name for magnesium ammonium phosphate ($MgNH_4PO_4 \cdot 6H_2O$), even though it is the name of a mineral family. Struvite is a slow release fertilizer (Kratz et al. 2019) and all three nutrients are plant available as from mineral

Broader Technologies

- Nutrient recovery

Factsheet


83.212.98.29:8102/d/technology/1100

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nextGen MP
Nutrient Marketplaces

Struvite production



Material recovery

Broader Technologies

Nutrient recovery

Factsheet

The pdf version of the factsheet can be downloaded here

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The purple coloured words are links to webpages or other factsheets

83.212.98.29:8102/d/technology/1100

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nextGen MP
Nutrient Marketplaces

nextGen TEB
Technology Evaluation Board

nextGen Toolkit
Control Room

Struvite production



Material recovery

Broader Technologies

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Phosphorus removal and recovery via struvite precipitation is applied at wastewater treatment plants, usually after a pre-treatment such as **anaerobic digestion** or even a combination of anaerobic digestion with an additional hydrolysis such as a **thermal pressure hydrolysis** or a thermal alkaline hydrolysis in order to increase the dissolved phosphate concentration.

To enable struvite precipitation, a pH of 7.5 and higher is required. Hence, as a first step towards a higher pH, the CO_2 is stripped via air injection. In a second step, caustics are added such as NaOH, if the CO_2 stripping has not reached the required pH value. To induce struvite precipitation, together with a certain ammonium concentration, a magnesium source is usually added such as MgCl_2 , MgO or Mg(OH)_2 . Magnesium forms together with phosphate and ammonium struvite. This takes place in a reaction tank, the so called struvite reactor, which is typically a continuously stirred tank reactor. Crystal growth is promoted by mixing, sufficient retention time and recirculation of formed crystals. As a last step, the struvite in form of larger crystals is separated in a settling tank. Usually the struvite is dewatered, dried and processed, before it can be applied as a slow-release fertilizer.

Varients of the process: sludge-liquor

If the CO_2 stripping and struvite precipitation take place in the sludge, the separation of the struvite crystals is less efficient and the crystals are usually inhomogeneous due to organic and/or inorganic impurities. However: the controlled struvite precipitation can be a useful measure to prevent pumps or pipes in the sludge line from scaling or even clogging (Desmidt et al. 2015).

The purple coloured words are links to webpages or other factsheets

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70%

Water recovery technologies for water reuse

Broader Technologies

- Resource for Circular Economy

Narrower Technologies

- Wastewater treatment technologies for water reuse
- Rainwater harvesting systems
- Surface water and infiltration systems
- Groundwater systems
- Desalination technologies

Process nextGen process

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70%

Search Technology/Product

My list

Energy recovery technologies

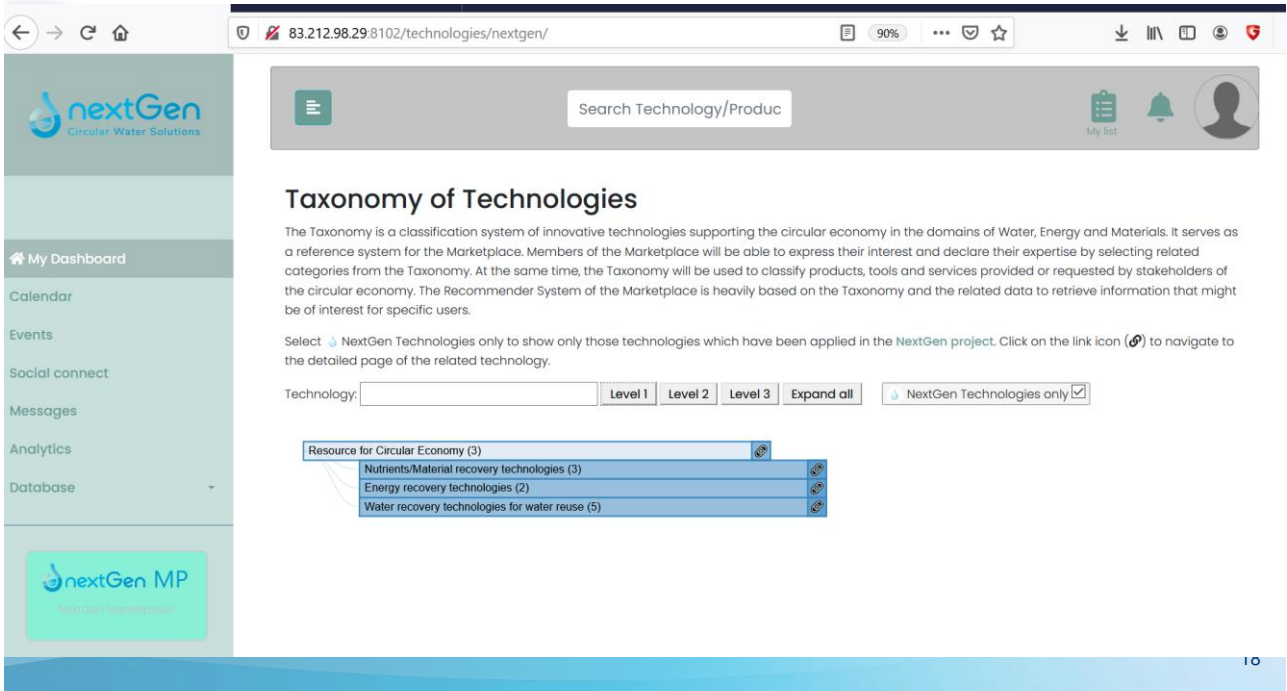
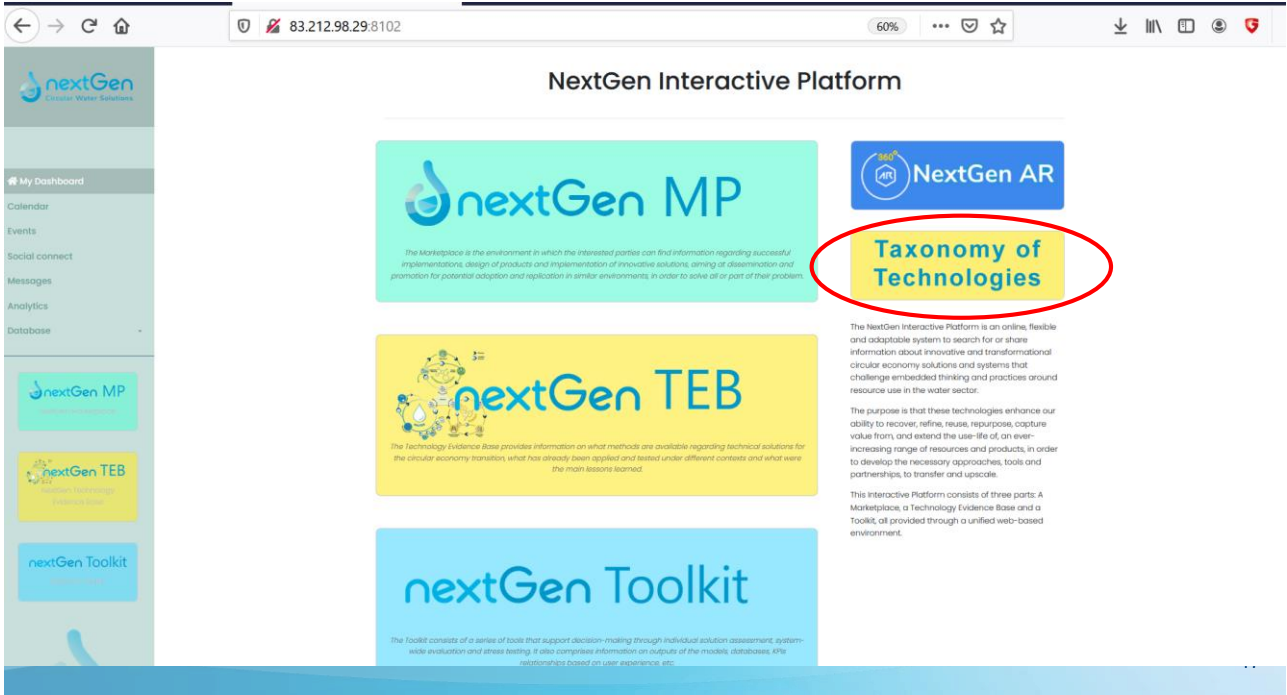
Broader Technologies

- Resource for Circular Economy

Narrower Technologies

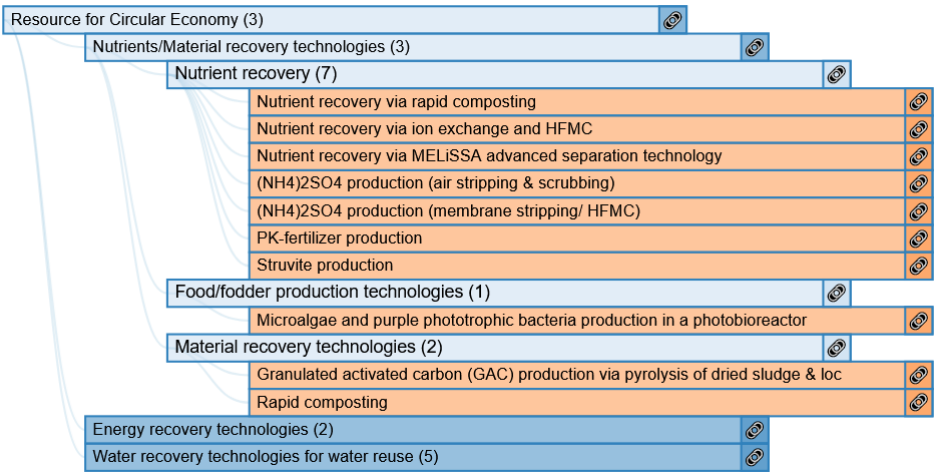
- Biomass production technologies
- Heat recovery & storage systems

Process nextGen process

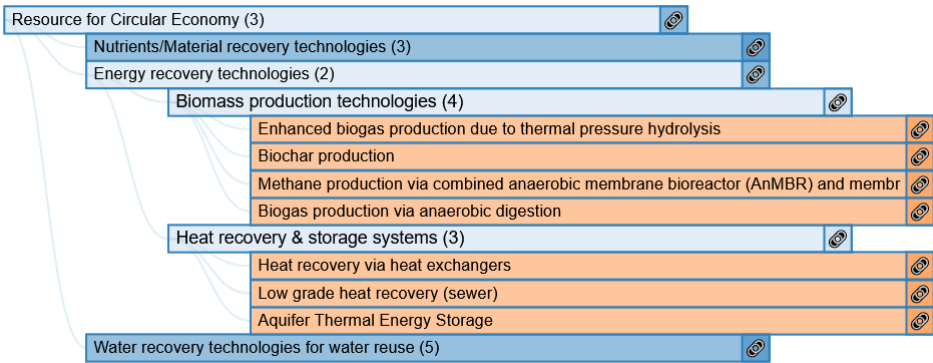


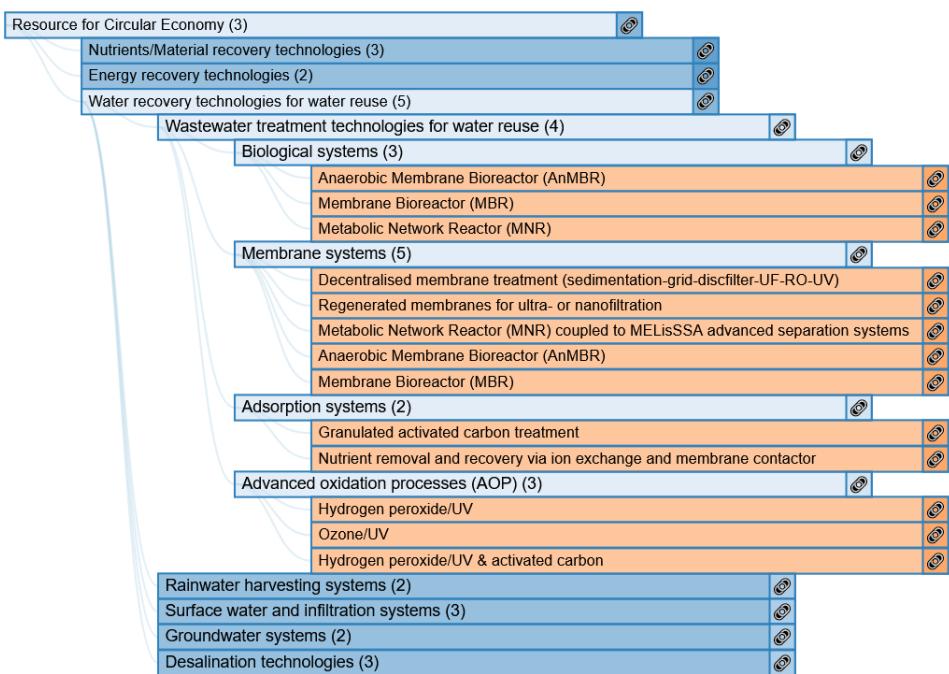


Overview on the factsheets (light red coloured) already prepared

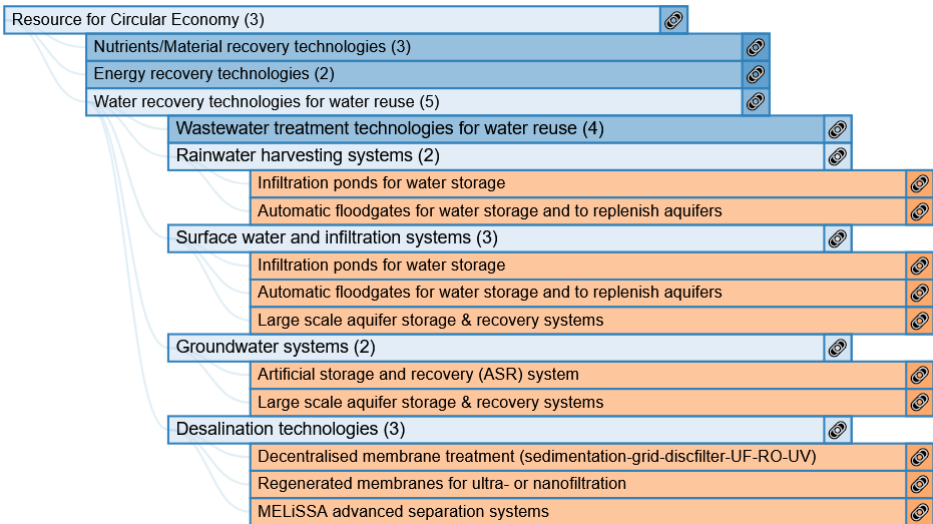


Overview on the factsheets (light red coloured) already prepared





Overview on the factsheets (light red coloured) already prepared





Timeline

Jan. 2021	Feedback of NextGen partners regarding layout, functionality, structure, etc.
Feb./Mar 2021	Revision of TEB according to the suggestions of the partners
Apr 2021	Uploading of the other factsheets & moving to the NextGen homepage
From May 2021 on:	Extension of the TEB regarding results of other NextGen WPs

Factsheet – Struvite production

AUTHORS: A. Kleyböcker, J. Schneider

DATE: 18/12/2020

VERSION: v4



Struvite production



Material recovery



Wastewater treatment technology

Unique selling points:

- ✓ High phosphorus removal and recovery rates related to the influent to the recovery unit of up to 95%
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Variants of the process: sludge - liquor

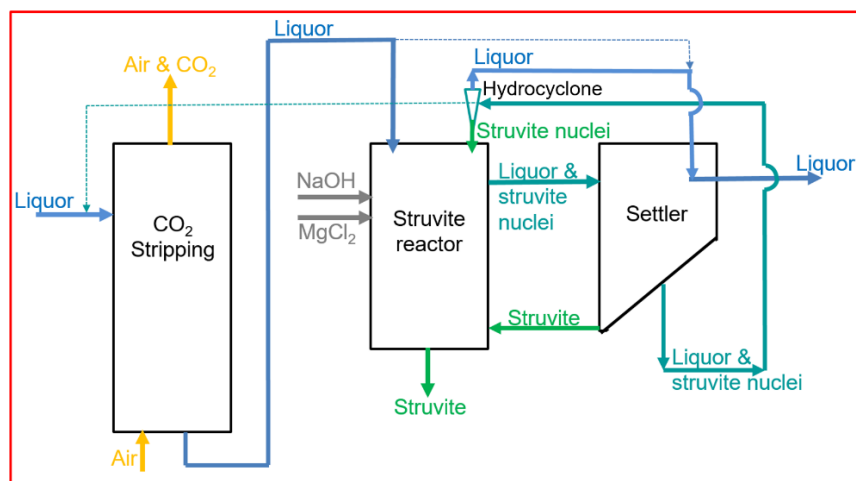
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If the CO₂ stripping and struvite precipitation take place in the liquor (e.g. after dewatering), the subsequent separation of the struvite is very efficient. However, the higher phosphate concentrations are, the lower the dewatering efficiency of the upstream dewatering unit is (Kuhn et al. 2013). Thus, the dewatering step might require more energy and sometimes even additives such as polymers in order to reach the required liquor quality. In the liquor, the crystals grow usually homogeneous. In NextGen the focus is on struvite production in the liquor, hence, the following sections will focus on this technological solution only.

Flow scheme of the technology

The flow scheme shows an example for struvite production in the liquor. After CO₂ stripping, the struvite crystals precipitate in the struvite reactor as already described. Macro crystals settle down ready to leave the struvite reactor and micro crystals (struvite nuclei) are distributed in the liquor and enter the settling reactor. There, they can further grow and settle down. However, if they are still too small for settling, they are transported back to the struvite reactor. The hydrocyclone separates the small crystals from the liquor. They serve as struvite nuclei and lead to an improved crystal growth within the struvite reactor. The system of the reactors is very flexible, shown by the dotted lines that indicate an alternative way of operation.



Pictures of the technology



Synergetic effects and motivation for the implementation of the technology

✓ Reduction of the phosphate return load of a WWTP

The WWTP profits from the reduced phosphate return load. Thus, a part of iron or aluminium salts often used for a conventional chemical removal might be saved due to the lower return load.

✓ Prevention of clogging events in pipes

Depending on the chemical composition of the wastewater and the pH conditions, struvite can precipitate in undesired parts in the wastewater treatment plant e.g. in pipes leading to scaling and clogging. Due to a controlled removal of the phosphate from the liquor, those processes will be diminished or even avoided in the subsequent plant parts.

Requirements of the technology and operating conditions

In order to reach high struvite yields, the dissolved phosphate concentration in relation to the total phosphorus content should be as high as possible in the reactor influent. At least the concentration should be at 50 mg PO₄-P/L, while the total suspended solids (TSS) and total solids (TS) should be below 600 mg/L and 2%, respectively. Furthermore, ammonium and magnesium need to be present. Therefore, a molar ratio of Mg:N:P between 1:2:1 and 1:12:1 should be maintained in the reactor.

Parameter	Units	Min	Max	Reference
PO ₄ -P (influent to reactor)	mg/L	50	-	Cornel and Schaum (2009)
TSS (influent to reactor)	mg/L	-	600	NextGen D1.5 (in prep.); Ohl 2020
TS (influent to reactor)	%	-	2	NextGen D1.5 (in prep.); NuReSys 2020
pH (in reactor)	-	7.5	9	NextGen D1.5 (in prep.), Cornel and Schaum (2009), Shaddel et al. (2019)
Mg:N:P molar ratio (in reactor)	-	1:2:1	1:12:1	Shaddel et al. (2019)

Key performance indicators

Besides the P-recovery rates, also the solubility of struvite in neutral ammonium citrate (NAC) is shown as a key performance indicator. This solubility P_{NAC} can give a hint to the plant availability and agronomic effectiveness of the fertilizer.

Parameter	Units	Min	Max	Reference
P-recovery rate (influent struvite production unit)	%	90	95	NextGen D1.5 (in prep.)
P-recovery rate (influent WWTP)	%	10	20	NextGen D1.5 (in prep.)
P _{NAC}	%	69	96	Kratz et al. 2019

Links to related topics and similar reference projects



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement N°776541

Phosphorus recovery processes	Reference
Struvite production	Case study “Braunschweig” (NextGen)
Hydroxyapatite production	Case study “Spernal” (NextGen)

References

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Outlook

Case study specific information will be provided, when the results of the other work packages are available:

- Lessons learned from the case study
- Outcome of the assessments
- Legal and regulatory information concerning the whole value chain concerning the technology
- Business opportunities

