



REN ÅKER REN MAT



It is evident that there are thousands of contaminants from the industrial society in sewage sludge. There are heavy metals and poorly biodegradable organic compounds as well as potentially pathogenic organisms (viruses, bacteria etc). The consequences of disposal on land are hard or impossible to foresee.

Heavy metals like cadmium being disposed on land leads to an accumulation which is irreversible.

EFSA has in a report from 2009 concluded that the cadmium load on the kidneys of people has to be *decreased*. The supply of cadmium has to be kept on the lowest possible level. As all sewage sludge is relatively highly contaminated by cadmium it should not be spread on agricultural land. That goes for every other fertilizer, that is highly contaminated by cadmium, as well.

Some examples of cadmium content in fertilizers

Humane urine	0,7 mg Cd/ kg Ph
Urine+faeces	10
NPK	3
Swedish sewage sludge 2006 (average)	37

An alternative way to handle the sludge is incineration, which is a growing trend in EU. By incineration you get energy and the possibility to extract a clean fraction of phosphorus.

Switzerland decided against the disposal of sewage sludge 2006.

Our organisation "Ren Åker – Ren Mat" ("Clean Land – Clean food") will strongly emphasize that the disposal of sewage sludge on land should be prohibited

For a more complete information of our standpoint see www.renakerrenmat.se (Swedish)

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