

## **Biosolarization: a new agricultural technique to avoid chemicals in strawberry cultivations**

LOCATION: Moguer (Huelva)

DURATION: 1'30"

**SUMMARY:** It is an innovative and ecologic technique. The Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research and Training in Andalusia has tested it in strawberry fields in Huelva. Biosolarization permits disinfecting soil using natural manure, water and a plastic that covers the ground hermetically for four weeks. Gasses emitted by mature and high temperatures erase fungi and weed, as manure enriches the ground.

### **VTR**

In this experimental farm is developed an innovative and ecologic cultivation technique, especially useful for strawberries. These workers of the Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research and Training in Andalusia use the sun's heat and their natural manure to disinfect the ground in a natural way, with no chemicals.

**Luis Miranda**  
**IFAPA specialized technician**

*"Here we aren't just speaking about a ground bio-disinfection technique, we are also increasing soil life."*

The manure they use is son fresh that is still decomposing. This one comes from the hens of the area. They water so the ground is wet and then cover it with this plastic. It will remain sealed for a month. During its decomposition, manure emits gasses that erase fungi and weeds; and also...

**Luis Miranda**  
**IFAPA specialized technician**

*"On the other side we rise the temperature of the soil predisposing those pathogens to become more susceptible to be attacked."*

Manure's gases, the heat and the lack of oxygen disinfect the ground and enrich it. But, can biosolarization be applied to all cultivations?

**Luis Miranda**  
**IFAPA specialized technician**

*"To every type of cultivation that permits leaving the soil free during summer, or at least during hotter months, to be able to do it."*

As strawberries. In Huelva there are seven thousand hectares dedicated to its cultivation. It is a business that has invoiced three hundred million euros in the last campaign. This investigation is aimed at these producers...

**Luis Miranda**  
**IFAPA specialized technician**

*"So they start convincing themselves that it can be another alternative in the management of their farm."*

An ecological alternative that intends to reduce the use of chemicals.

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