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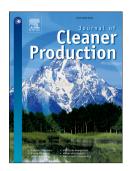
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#### ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

# Farmers' reasons to accept bio-based fertilizers: A choice experiment in seven different European countries

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#### 1 Abstract

- 2 European agriculture is a large importer of nutrients in the form of chemical fertilizers.
- 3 Additionally, countries with livestock-intensive farming face problems with disposal of
- 4 nutrients in animal manure. The availability of chemical fertilizers has changed farmers'
- 5 past dependence on manure. Nowadays, despite its nutrient content, manure is sometimes
- 6 considered as a waste product. However, if the characteristics of manure and other waste
- 7 streams could be enhanced through processing, it could be transformed into an alternative
- 8 bio-based fertilizer recycling the nutrients within the farming sector. This would also
- 9 create opportunities for nutrient exchange between different European regions. However,
- 10 a key question is what is needed for farmers to accept these products as replacements for
- their current chemical fertilizer use? In this paper, key attributes determining the
- 12 acceptance of alternative bio-based fertilizer products are identified. Based on the
- identified attributes, a discrete choice experiment was designed to reveal farmers'

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