

NitroCapt raises 2.8 M€ to develop a pilot plant

The production of nitrogen fertilizers causes 2,5% of the global fossil-related greenhouse gas emissions. To date, no one has developed a cost-effective, emission-free process that can compete with conventional production. But now, NitroCapt accelerates the development of the novel chemical process SUNIFIX®, that only needs water and renewable electricity to fix nitrogen from the air, that can set a new standard for large-scale fossil-free production of nitrogen fertilizer. The company, that was founded 2016 in Uppsala, has just received funding from LRF Ventures, Almi Invest GreenTech, InnoEnergy and others, for the development of its first pilot plant.

There was a large interest when the company was searching for 1 M€ funding. The issue was strongly oversubscribed and ended at 1.8 M€. In addition, another 1M€ in grants have been approved and the company will invest a total of approx. 3M€ during two years. NitroCapt follows a development where NorthVolt and H2 Green Steel have had great success to raise capital for fossil-free processes for the production of industrial commodities, where the market is virtually insatiable. Nitrogen fertilizer is today produced using the Haber Bosch process, which alone is responsible for more greenhouse gas emissions than any other chemical process. For example, Bill Gates has described in his latest book that this process is a large problem and noted that there is no good technical solution available today. Synthetic fertilizers are crucial in order to manage the global food supply, which makes the transition to climate-neutral agriculture a great challenge. But NitroCapt's groundbreaking solution can be the answer. Now a pilot plant will be developed and installed in Germany and optimized for maximum efficiency.

“It's incredibly exciting that we, together with our visionary investors, get the possibility to develop a solution to a big global challenge for agriculture and the climate. Thanks to this, we can now start recruitment of a number of highly qualified engineers and take the first steps towards a commercialization of our process.” says Gustaf Forsberg, founder and CEO.

LRF Ventures, ALMI Invest GreenTech, InnoEnergy, SLU Holding and the serial entrepreneur and Graphmatech co-founder Björn Lindh are among the investors.

“This is a company that can play an incredibly important role in reducing the climate impact of agriculture – a key topic for our members as well as the whole ag sector globally. NitroCapt has strong entrepreneurs and a unique expertise, that give them a good basis to succeed. It's fantastically exciting to be part of this investment.” says Martin Alexandersson, Investment Manager at LRF Ventures.

NitroCapt was founded in 2016 by the CEO Gustaf Forsberg, who earlier was a key person in the development of the ThermoSeed technology for pesticide-free seed treatment, and Peter Baeling, a chemical engineer who has developed the world's largest sterile continuous fermentor. NitroCapt's head office is at Green Innovation Park on the SLU campus at Ultuna, Uppsala. The company is part of InnoEnergy's Highway programme, that has financed the company's activities until now.

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