

Fit-to-farm Models for Biomanufacturing

Can microorganisms color the future of textiles?

Hosted by: Veenweide Atelier

Project Information (EN)

Veenweide Atelier - An Ecosocial Design Lab for Peat Landscapes

The Frisian peat meadow area is the largest continuous peat landscape in the Netherlands—one of the planet's critical zones where climate, biodiversity, and human livelihood intersect. Low water levels dry out the soil, releasing vast amounts of CO₂. Restoring peat, fostering biodiversity, and raising water levels offer solutions.

The Veenweide Atelier (Peat meadow Atelier) is a project initiated by artist and designer Henriëtte Waal and Arcadia Foundation and functions as an ecosocial design lab, where farmers, residents, nature managers, scientists, and designers collaborate. Together, they explore how peat landscapes can remain resilient and livable—for both people and the more-than-human world.

Can microorganisms color the future of textiles?

Creative design studio Faber Futures explores how local pigment-producing bacteria - mainly found in healthy soil and manure - can provide a sustainable alternative to conventional chemical dye processes.

At the Veenweide Atelier, Faber Futures collaborates with Frisian farmers, microbiologists, and textile makers. They experiment with locally cultivated bacterial strains from the peat meadow area. They test how agricultural waste can feed these bacteria, supported by residual heat from the farm. The project proposes a distributed, fit-to-farm model of biomanufacturing in Friesland and aims to establish a circular system for textile finishing. The large printed fabric embodies collaboration between humans, plants, and bacteria.

Projectinformatie (NL)

Veenweide Atelier - Een ecosociaal ontwerplab voor veenlandschappen

Het Veenweide Atelier is een project geïnitieerd door kunstenaar en ontwerper Henriëtte Waal en Stichting Arcadia, en fungeert als een ecosociaal ontwerplab waar boeren, bewoners, natuurbeheerders, wetenschappers en ontwerpers samenwerken. Samen onderzoeken zij hoe veenlandschappen veerkrachtig en leefbaar kunnen blijven—voor zowel mensen als de meer-dan-menselijke wereld.

Image List

Filename	Caption	Credit
veenweide-atelier-project-fit-to-farm-models-for-biomanufacturing-veenweide-atelier-with-faber-futures-photo-tryntsje-nauta-web-size_1759153618.jpg	Bacterial dyed textile at the Veenweide Atelier	textile: Faber Futures, photo: Tryntsje Nauta
veenweide-atelier-with-faber-futures-fit-to-farm-models-for-biomanufacturing-photo-tryntsje-nauta-web-size_1759154103.jpg	Bacterial dyed textile at the Veenweide Atelier	textile: Faber Futures photo: Tryntsje Nauta

The images above are included in the ZIP under `/images`.