



European Flax-Linen fibre Life Cycle data are now integrated into the version 3.10 ecoinvent database released in November 2023

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The Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp is committed to providing reliable environmental impact data on European Flax™ fibre representing ¾ of world Flax fibre production, with its specificities. The Alliance collaborates with leading databases and has engaged into a partnership with ecoinvent, the leading life cycle inventory database.

We are pleased to announce that the data for European Flax-Linen fibres, long and short, are accessible in the yearly release of ecoinvent database which took place in November 2023.

No such data about Western European Flax existed previously in the ecoinvent database.



STRATEGIC DATA FOR TEXTILE AND TECHNICAL MARKETS

Faced with environmental and climate emergency, societal and consumer expectations and upcoming regulations, industries and brands need robust environmental data from their value chains, particularly raw materials, in order to calculate the impacts for their semi-products, components and, finally, finished products.

This release underscores the importance of industry-database collaboration and the willingness of the Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp to share Flax-Linen sector data in a transparent manner.



European Flax™ fibre data is now present in major and complementary database:

- ecoinvent, a global leader publishing the world's most comprehensive environmental life cycle inventory database. It has +5000 users from all industry sectors and is used in connection with all major LCA softwares. This collaboration was governed by a dedicated agreement.
- The official EF 3.1 database from the European Commission, released in January 2023 as part of the framework PEF (Product Environmental Footprint). This inclusion results from collaboration between the Alliance and a consortium including ecoinvent and Blonk consulting. The Alliance is also involved as a voting member of PEF Apparel to co-construct sectorial rules for fashion and footwear. A key initiative on which upcoming European Union regulations shall be built.
- The Higg MSI, an initiative launched by the Sustainable Apparel Coalition.

These collaborations were also supported by the expertise of agronomic institutes, referent for Flax-Linen cultivation: respectively Arvalis for France and Inagro for Belgium and the Netherlands.

By adopting a flexible approach, the data remains adaptable to the industry's future needs and evolving methodologies.

The new version of the enhanced ecoinvent database can be explored on the www.ecoinvent.org website for access to the latest environmental data.



NO DATA REPRESENTING FLAX-LINEN FIBRE LEADING GEOGRAPHY - WESTERN EUROPE - EXISTED PREVIOUSLY IN THE ECOINVENT DATABASE

The newly released ecoinvent data, including both inventory and impact, enables all players in the Flax-Linen sector, industry, and brands to calculate the impacts of their products made from European Flax certified fibre.

No such data existed previously in the ecoinvent database.

It is representative of cultivation and scutching practices in Western Europe (France, Belgium, and the Netherlands, $\frac{3}{4}$ of world Flax fibre production) such as no irrigation barring exceptional circumstances, low pesticide and fertiliser use, dew retting, etc. and therefore representative of the blends typically operated in pre-processing and spinning stages to ensure Linen yarn and textile consistency over time.



TO GO FURTHER:

This partnership underscores the importance of industry-database collaboration, allowing data to serve multiple purposes, including life cycle assessments (PEF) and inclusion in ecoinvent. By adopting a flexible approach, the data becomes accessible to different profiles of users and markets.

NEXT STEPS:

In order to provide comprehensive data for the Flax-Linen sector and final users, the Alliance is currently co-constructing average data at European Union level for each transformation process of long and short fibres: hackling, carding-combing, preparation, and wet spinning, etc.

ABOUT ECOINVENT:

ecoinvent is an internationally active, mission-driven organization devoted to supporting high-quality, science-based environmental assessments.

Its activities include publishing and maintaining the ecoinvent database, a comprehensive life cycle inventory database that provides reliable and transparent information on the environmental impacts of various products and services.

The ecoinvent database encompasses over 2,400 agriculture datasets, including sectors such as agriculture, animal husbandry, and more. The database covers various geographies, including more than 40 countries and multiple regions within those countries.

The new version of the enhanced ecoinvent database can be explored on the www.ecoinvent.org website for access to the latest environmental data.

ABOUT



Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp The Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp [formerly known as the CELC, an association founded in 1951] is the only European agro-industrial organization that serves as a global reference and brings together all players in the European Flax-Linen and Hemp value chain.

Western Europe is the number one Flax-producing region in the world [France, Belgium, and the Netherlands account for 3/4 of production].

The Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp has a three-fold mission of informing members, brands, and consumers, supporting the European ecosystem and European expertise, and promoting European Flax-Linen and Hemp as the preferred sustainable premium fibres worldwide. It connects 10,000 businesses in 16 European countries and bases its work on the values of solidarity, innovation, scientific validation, and respect for people and planet.

It promotes an environment favourable to industry growth and strives to increase the international visibility of European Flax-Linen and Hemp. The technical and environmental properties of these plant fibres inspire global creation and open up new opportunities for industrial innovation.

The Alliance also guarantees the traceability of Flax fibre thanks to the European Flax™ and Masters of Linen™ certifications.

Please visit our website for more information:
allianceflaxlinenhemp.eu

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