

HIGH-QUALITY PAPER IS BEING PRODUCED IN VENICE RECYCLING ALGAE WHICH INFEST THE LAGOON

The project to produce paper by recycling algae that infested seriously the Venice Lagoon started in the 90's. The input was given by the competent local institutions who, to prevent the deoxygenation of the Lagoon, involved local actors in the search for effective solutions. In particular, the problem to be solved was how to recycle algae harvested and particularly difficult to dispose.

In Venice, algae flourish every summer and year after year the problem of infestation of non-native species returns. This is a very serious phenomenon, as algae pose a threat to biodiversity because they steal space for local species. They are also dangerous for boats.

To help solve this serious problem, the company Favini, a historical paper mill of the territory, with the support of ENEA (National Agency for Energy and the Environment) and the European Union, created in 1993 the first sample of [Shiro Alga Carta Favini®](#).

The algae harvested annually from the lagoon are dried and ground and then mixed with other certified fibres, producing a high-quality environmentally friendly paper which, thanks to the presence of chlorophyll, tends to become whiter with time.

With the support of two initiatives of the European Union (LIFE Programmes) the production of paper from algae of the Atlantic Ocean was also successfully experienced, in collaboration with actors of Portugal. Collaboration is already underway with actors of the region of Brittany in France

Furthermore, the production of paper by recycling waste of the agro-food industry has been successfully experienced. Currently the Favini company produces paper recycling waste from the processing of lemons, oranges, corn, apples and olives. It also opened a production line of environmentally friendly paper by recycling waste from annual renewable crops as bamboo, cotton and sugar cane.



To know more

[The Shiro Alga Carta](#)

[Process and materials](#)

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