



# Sustainability report 2024

*Passion for plants*

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## About this report

This sustainability report by A.Vogel AG, headquartered in Roggwil TG, covers the reporting period from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024. This first report was prepared with reference to the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) standards to ensure structured reporting and transparency. It covers the Roggwil site of A.Vogel AG. In the future, a sustainability report will be published every two years.

The sustainability report was developed as part of an internal company project with the involvement of external expertise. The aim was to create a transparent, well-founded, and forward-looking picture of our commitment to sustainability.

On the following pages, you will find a message from our CEO Dr. Andy Suter, providing insights into our sustainability strategy and vision. The report then offers the opportunity to engage with the key core topics of sustainability - with concrete goals, implemented measures, and results. Finally, we have presented key performance indicators (KPIs).

For questions, feedback, and suggestions, please contact:

[sustainability@avogel.ch](mailto:sustainability@avogel.ch)

# Message from the CEO

Dear Readers,

Alfred Vogel, the founder of the A.Vogel Group, once said: “We should learn to live with nature and protect it.” Our actions are inspired by nature, which provides us with everything we need for a healthy life, and we have the responsibility to safeguard it. The A.Vogel Group follows the nature-oriented and sustainable philosophy of Alfred Vogel, which is firmly rooted in our corporate culture.

Our appreciation for nature and our passion for plants are reflected in every aspect of our work. Responsible use of resources is more than just a principle for us - it is a central element of our identity and our commitment to protecting nature and the well-being of future generations.

We are pleased to share our first sustainability report. This report provides insight into our sustainability strategy and demonstrates how we integrate ecological and social responsibility into our products and daily practices.

In 2024, we conducted a materiality analysis with our stakeholders. Through this process, we identified five core topics of sustainability that significantly shape our approach to nature, employees, partners, and customers. Our guiding principles of responsible corporate governance establish a clear framework for our commitment both within and outside the company. Our top priority remains to uncompromisingly uphold the quality promise of the A.Vogel brand and to always place the health of our customers at the center.

This sustainability mission statement provides clear direction for the entire A.Vogel Group and reflects our vision. It strengthens our shared understanding and aligns it with our corporate philosophy. To review our progress toward these ambitions, we will measure A.Vogel’s sustainability performance using globally recognized indicators and report on our progress. In doing so, we adhere to the comprehensive guidelines of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI).

Dear readers, it is my pleasure to give you an insight into the world of A.Vogel.

Dr. Andy Suter

CEO A.Vogel AG



"Nature was my favorite university."

*Alfred Vogel (1902 - 1996)*



## Our Story

With the opening of his first health food store in Basel on January 1, 1923, Alfred Vogel laid the foundation for our more than 100-year success story. Alfred Vogel was a Swiss naturopath who became especially well-known for his work in phytotherapy (herbal medicine). Throughout his life, he searched for remedies in nature and traveled to every continent to study the knowledge of indigenous peoples about medicinal plants and natural ways of living, integrating this wisdom into the products he developed. Beginning in 1937, Alfred Vogel managed a medicinal plant garden in Teufen, Appenzell, and shared his message that a healthy life was possible through a balanced diet, herbal medicine, and living in harmony with nature.

Almost 30 years later, the company, by then known as Bioforce AG, moved into a production facility in Roggwil TG – a step that marked the beginning of significant growth for the company. Alfred Vogel passed away in 1996, but his philosophy and insights – which have since been confirmed by modern science – remain alive and continue to shape the company to this day.



Alfred Vogel (1902–1996) Company founder, pioneer of naturopathy, and author.



Since 2020, the company has been operating under the name A.Vogel. It remains independent and is majority-owned by the Alfred Vogel Foundation. With seven distribution subsidiaries in Europe and North America, A.Vogel has established an international presence. In addition, the company operates production sites in Elburg (Netherlands) and Colmar (France).

Today, we are a leading supplier of herbal remedies. Freshly harvested, organically grown raw materials form the foundation for our scientifically validated herbal medicines, as well as for our supplements and food products. A.Vogel offers more than 20 different main products that are sold in Switzerland and in over 25 countries worldwide.

We consistently use fresh plants to capture the full spectrum of active ingredients – this is what makes A.Vogel products unique. Our in-house research and development help us better understand the healing power of nature and translate it into innovative health solutions. Since the first A.Vogel production in Basel, both the world and consumer behavior have changed fundamentally. The demands placed on A.Vogel products today are higher than ever – with regard to efficacy, scientific validation, organic cultivation of medicinal plants, and every step of the pharmaceutical manufacturing process. With reliable and balanced information on natural health, nutrition, and lifestyle, A.Vogel fosters a deeper understanding of how to maintain your health and enhance your well-being.



## Facts & figures – sustainability at a glance

**100% quality**  
**Promise –**  
**Herbal. Effective. Safe.**

**500 employees**  
worldwide,  
including **170 in**  
**Switzerland**

**90% of fresh**  
**plants from organic**  
**cultivation**

**100% rainwater used**  
for irrigating the cultiva-  
tion fields in Roggwil

**100% recycling of**  
ethanol and plant  
waste -  
**242,000 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> saved**

**100% of vegetable-**  
**plants from organic**  
**cultivation**

**75,000 kWh of**  
**solar power –**  
covering **15%** of our en-  
ergy needs in Roggwil

More than **8,000**  
visitors sensitised to  
biodiversity and health

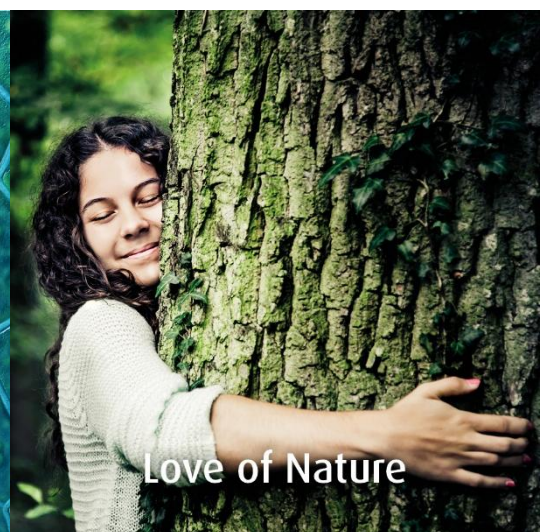
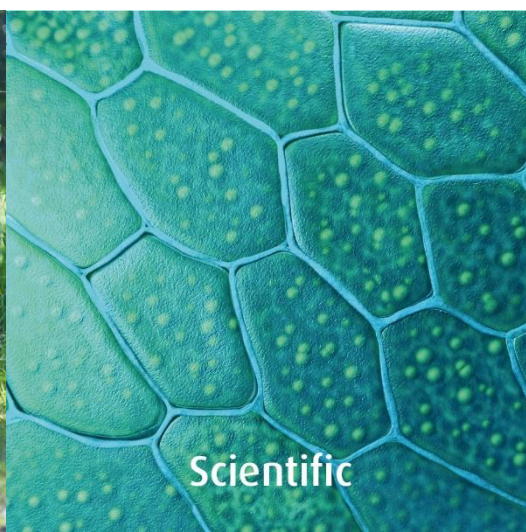


## Our values

Our brand values are deeply rooted in our corporate philosophy and provide us with guidance in an ever-changing world. They describe who we are, what we stand for, and how we act – today and in the future. These values are more than just words: they express our attitude, our commitment to people and nature, and our responsibility for a healthy future. We say what we do and do what we say. As a global brand with Swiss roots, we embrace the challenge of being honest, tangible, and trusted by society. Traceability, sustainability, transparent production, and a seal of quality are guaranteed with us.

We are committed to ensuring that people become and remain healthy in a natural and sustainable way. To actively promote integrative health, we make our knowledge from 100 years of experience widely accessible with relevant information and guide people to improve their physical, mental, and social well-being.

Our brand values shape our daily actions – from research and cultivation to communication with our customers.





## A.Vogel sustainability journey

At A.Vogel, sustainability starts as early as the development of new products. Sustainability is already anchored in our innovation strategy and guides our actions from the very beginning.

Nature and its plant resources are the raw materials for our products. Our responsibility towards employees, suppliers, consumers, and society began back in 1923. Today, we put this responsibility – which began more than 100 years ago – down on paper. First, we offer you an overview of the individual steps in the value chain – from research and development to the finished A.Vogel product reaching the customer.

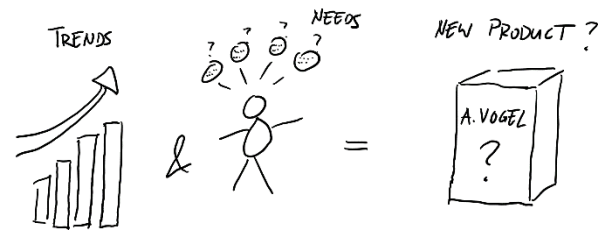




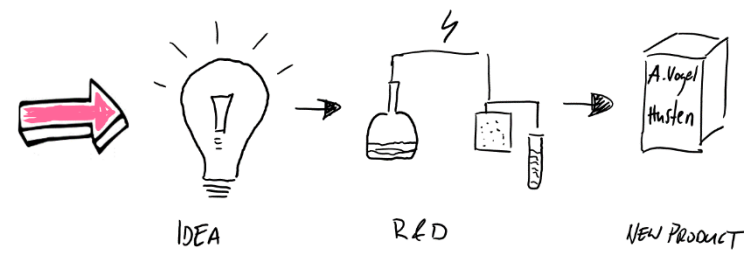
# A.VOGEL VALUE CHAIN



## 1. TRENDS AND NEEDS



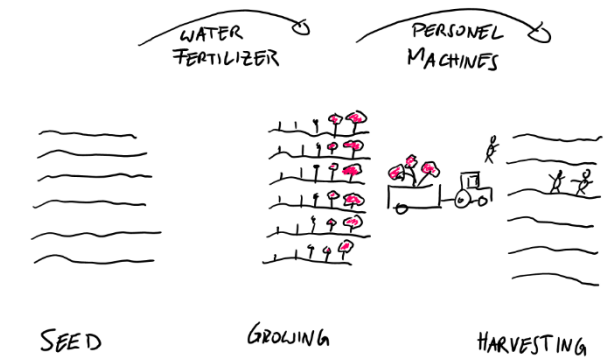
## 2. RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT



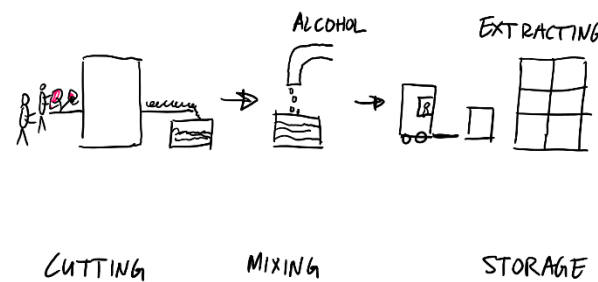
## 3. REGULATORY APPROVAL



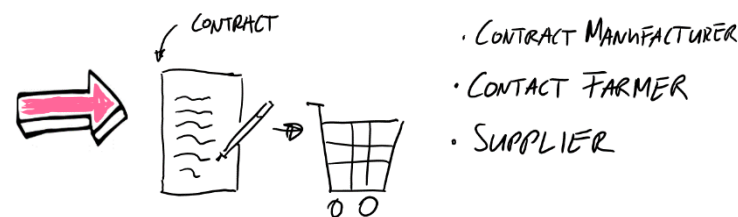
## 4. CULTIVATION



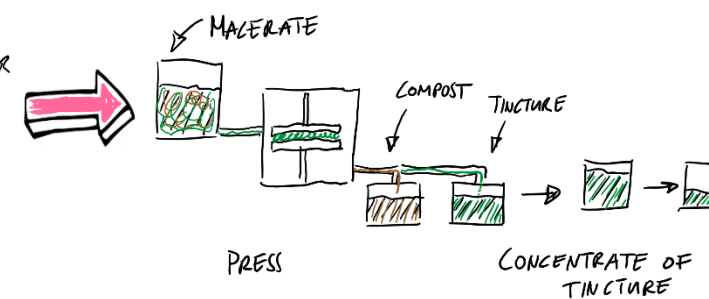
## 5. MACERATION



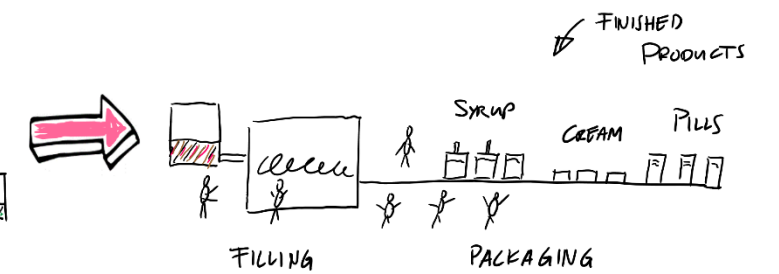
## 6. SOURCING



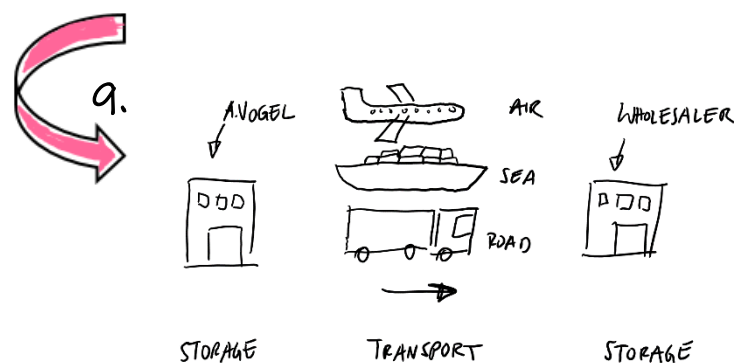
## 7. PRODUCTION OF TINCTURE



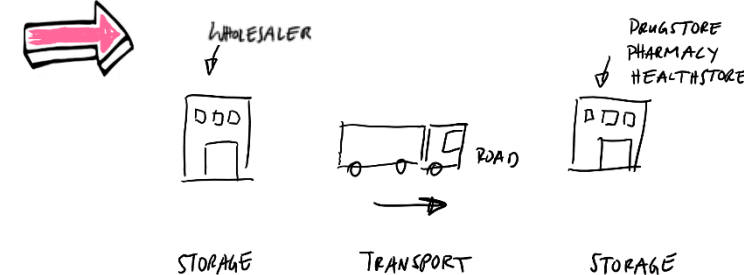
## 8. PRODUCTION OF FINISHED PRODUCTS



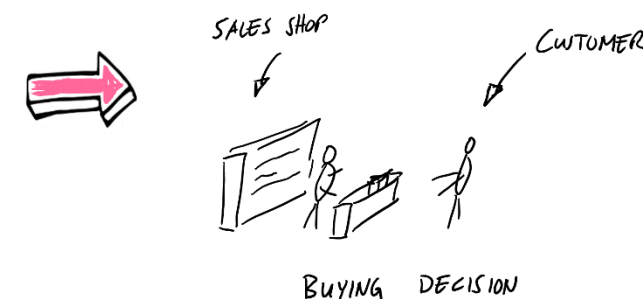
## DISTRIBUTION TO WHOLESALE



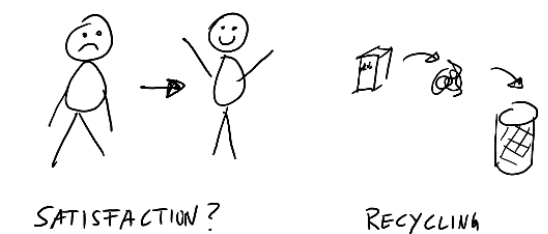
## 10. DISTRIBUTION TO SALES SHOPS



## 11. POINT OF SALE



## 12. AFTER SALE



## Our sustainability topics

As part of the further development of our sustainability strategy, we carried out a comprehensive materiality analysis in 2024. The purpose of this analysis was to identify the topics that are most important for our company and for our stakeholders – including employees.

Through this investigation, we have determined the key areas where, as a company, we have the greatest impact and can simultaneously make a positive contribution. Based on these results, we will specifically further develop our sustainability goals and ensure that we continue to contribute to responsible and future-oriented corporate management.



# Materiality assessment

As part of our ESG responsibility (Environment, Social, Governance), we have identified key areas that are particularly important for A.Vogel. Based on our materiality assessment, the priority topics in each area have been derived. In doing so, we have considered both the potential impact of our business activities on the environment and society, as well as the possible influence A.Vogel may have on these issues.



Customers



Environment



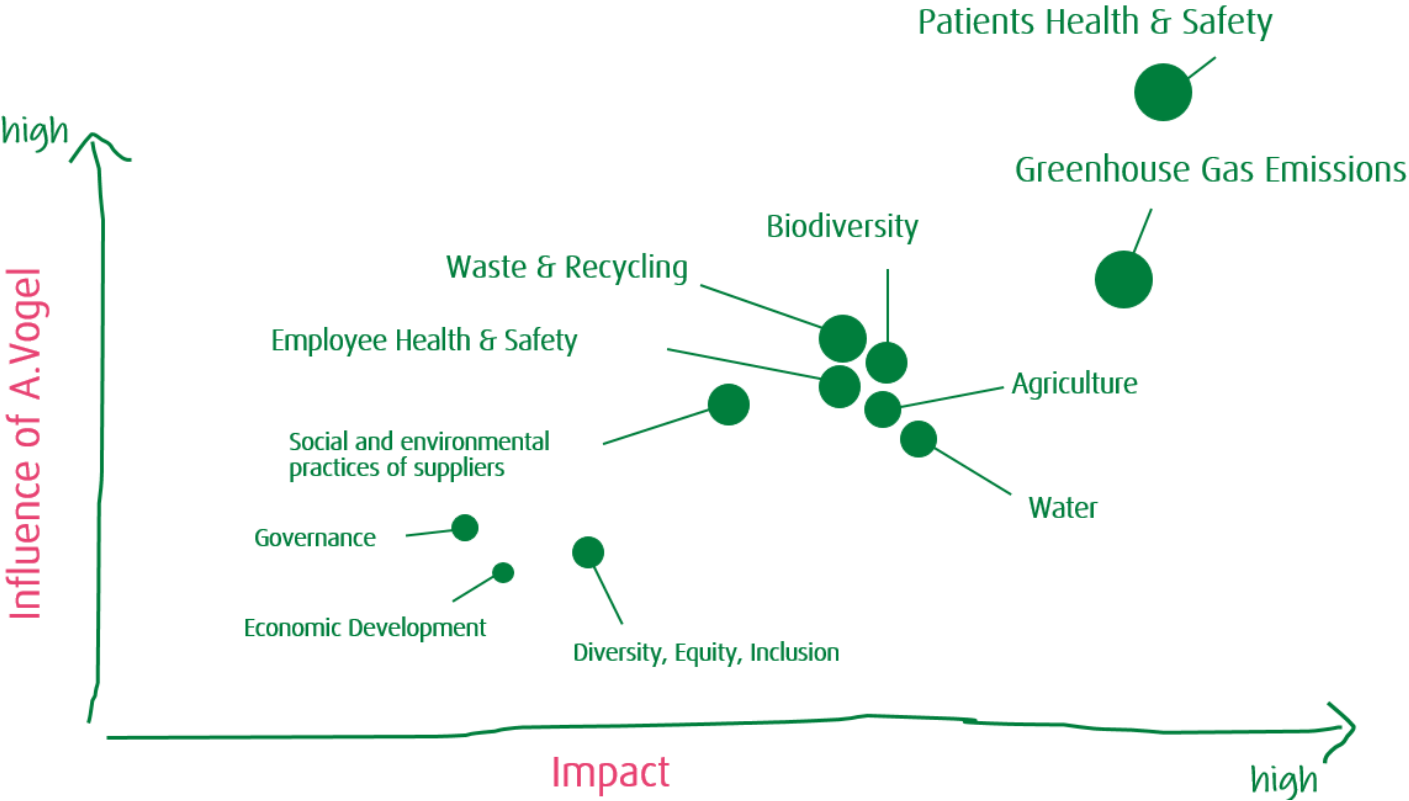
Employees



Governance



Social Responsibility



# Sustainability as a lived responsibility

Our ESG concept is based on a comprehensive understanding of responsibility towards the environment, people, and society. In this respect, our core brand values are directly linked to our understanding of sustainability.

Health

*Focusing on people's well-being*



Patients Health & Safety

Integrity

*For a strong corporate governance*



Suppliers' Social & Environmental Practices



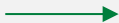
Employee Health & Safety



Governance

Love of Nature

*Our environmental responsibility*



Greenhouse Gas Emissions



Waste & Recycling



Water



Biodiversity



Agriculture



## Health – focusing on people's well-being

As a manufacturer of herbal medicines, dietary supplements, and foods, A.Vogel assumes a special responsibility – not only towards our customers, but also towards the nature from which our products originate. Those who choose A.Vogel place their trust in the power of plants and in our decades of experience in natural health care.





## Our quality promise – Herbal. Effective. Safe.

At A.Vogel, we unite the natural power of plants with scientific curiosity. Our goal is to develop products that are safe, effective, and trustworthy – for everyone who uses them. We live up to this quality promise in all areas of our company: from seed selection to processing and packaging.

### *From seed...*

Quality begins with the seed. We cultivate more than 15 different plants ourselves and work with over 20 growers and collectors. Whenever possible, we rely on organic farming (Bio-Knospe certified) and sustainable harvesting (GACP). This ensures we use only the best ingredients while protecting our environment.

### *...to the finished product*

During cultivation and production, we pay close attention to quality and environmental protection at every stage (goods receipt, tincture production, intermediate products, filling). With over 200 analysis steps per product, our team of more than 25 employees in quality and development ensures that each product meets the highest quality standards. This is also confirmed by independent auditors and authorities (Swissmedic approval, GMP inspection).





### *From research...*

Our products are continuously studied through clinical research at renowned universities (so far, over 50 clinical studies were conducted). This allows us to learn more about the effects and safety of our medicinal plants. These results have been published in internationally recognized journals and, of course, the knowledge gained flows directly into our product development.

### *...to our own product development*

More than 15 products are still based on the original recipes of plant pioneer Alfred Vogel. The others have been independently developed according to his principles. Whenever possible, we use fresh plants and strive to rediscover and apply rare plants with our knowledge of their properties and effects.

At A.Vogel, we promise not only high-quality products from sustainable cultivation, but also that we will continue to expand our knowledge of the power of plants in the pioneering spirit of Alfred Vogel, so that new health products will be available for the benefit of all in the future.



## Together for a strong community

At A.Vogel, people's health in harmony with nature is at the center of everything we do. That's why we actively dedicate ourselves to sharing knowledge about medicinal plants and promoting health awareness.

At our health center in Teufen (AR), visitors experience our holistic approach firsthand – whether in the A.Vogel Museum, during guided tours, or through seminars. Professionals also benefit from our continuing education offerings.

At our headquarters in Roggwil, we invite you to discover the journey from fresh plant to finished medicine with all your senses. A highlight is the EchinaPoint Experience Center, which vividly demonstrates the effects of our most renowned medicinal plant – Echinacea.

With the publicly accessible biodiversity trail surrounding our premises, we create habitats for plants and animals while raising awareness of the value of biological diversity. The principles of Alfred Vogel – organic agriculture, resource conservation, and a life in harmony with nature – continue to shape our social engagement to this day. In the future, we will remain wholeheartedly committed to passing on the healing power of nature to people in all its effectiveness.





## Integrity – for a strong corporate governance

Integrity forms the foundation of our corporate management. We say what we do, and we do what we say. These values guide our actions and our interactions with customers, employees, suppliers, and other stakeholders.

The values of A.Vogel are the basis of our Code of Conduct, which defines the principles for responsible business practices. It applies to all subsidiaries of the A.Vogel Group. Every employee must acknowledge the Code of Conduct at the beginning of their employment. This code sets out binding principles for ethical, lawful, and fair conduct in everyday business – towards employees, business partners, society, and the environment.





## Responsible supply chain

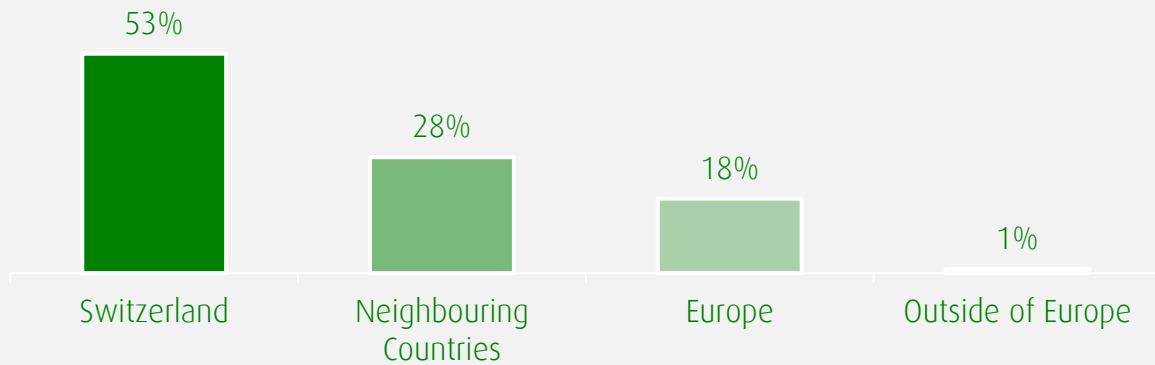
More and more people want to know where products come from, under what conditions they are produced, and what impact they have on people and the environment. With this growing interest, the demand for companies to make their supply chains transparent and to provide clear information about ecological, social, and ethical aspects is also increasing. Customers and authorities increasingly expect companies to take responsibility. At A.Vogel AG, we take this responsibility seriously. We operate in a highly regulated environment and are aware of these challenges.

Our goal is to keep procurement as local and regional as possible – both for ecological and quality reasons. Short transport routes reduce emissions and optimally preserve the freshness and efficacy of the plants.





## Source of fresh plants



Building long-term, trusting relationships with producers is essential for us. To fulfill our responsibility, we actively seek dialogue with our suppliers, intensify exchanges, and strive for maximum transparency along the entire supply chain.

Responsible action regarding human rights, fair working conditions, and the environment is central to us. Through clear processes, regular training, and an open communication culture, we raise awareness among our employees and business partners for responsible conduct.

However, we are aware that not all challenges have been solved yet. We take this responsibility seriously and are continuously working to further improve our standards.



## Our commitment to employees

*"Our employees are the key to our success."*

Our employees are at the heart of the A.Vogel Group. Their knowledge, passion, and dedication make our company strong. That's why we create a working environment marked by fairness, respect, and appreciation – for more than 500 employees worldwide.

### *Leadership at eye level*

We foster flat hierarchies, a culture of first-name basis, and transparent communication. Every contribution counts – regardless of role or position. Our corporate culture promotes equal opportunities as well as personal and professional development.

### *Health and safety*

The protection of our employees is a top priority. Through training and prevention, we create a safe working environment and meet all relevant health and safety standards.

### *Development and future*

We encourage entrepreneurial thinking and creative ideas. Annual development discussions support individual career paths. Internal succession planning safeguards knowledge and strengthens our future viability.





## *Diversity, equality, and inclusion*

We value different perspectives and reject discrimination. Equal opportunity and fair treatment are self-evident to us – including in terms of pay. Our 2021 pay equity analysis confirmed: There are no systematic pay differences between women and men.

## *Trust and transparency*

Our whistleblowing platform enables anonymous and secure reporting of grievances. In this way, we promote an open corporate culture and strengthen trust.

## *Well-being and community*

Flexible working hours, contributions to health-promoting activities, and shared events like the “pumpkin soup lunch” strengthen our sense of togetherness. Even former employees remain part of the A.Vogel family.

## *Feedback counts*

90% of our employees participated in the last survey – 84% support the lived corporate culture. At the same time, we use this feedback to continue developing – for example, in agility, digitization, and collaboration.







## Our promise

We remain committed to promoting open communication and a strong feedback culture – because only together can we continue to develop A.Vogel into an attractive, responsible, and forward-looking employer.

## Goals and measures

### *Strengthening the feedback culture*

We will expand the regular and systematic implementation of employee surveys in the future, in order to respond more effectively to needs and concerns. Our goal is to ensure that our employees feel heard and that we can grow together as a company.

### *Global analysis of supply chains with regard to ESG risks*

As an internationally operating company, we bear responsibility along the entire supply chain. To meet this responsibility, we are expanding our comprehensive risk analysis of global supply chains – with a focus on environmental, social, and responsible corporate governance (ESG). The aim is to identify potential vulnerabilities at an early stage and to develop long-term solutions together with our partners.



## Love of nature – our environmental responsibility

Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time. The main drivers are human-induced greenhouse gas emissions. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), global temperatures are rising significantly – with serious consequences for nature, weather, and agriculture.

Agriculture is especially affected by climatic changes – and at the same time, it is also a major emitter of greenhouse gases. Both agriculture and the processing industry, including our company, influence climate change through the release of greenhouse gases. These emissions arise, among other places, in agricultural production, the transport of raw materials and finished products, as well as in our own production processes, which require energy for heating and cooling.





## CO<sub>2</sub> Footprint

Climate protection is of central importance to A.Vogel AG. Our company depends on natural raw materials, whose quality and availability are threatened by climate changes. At the same time, we feel responsible for reducing our own emissions as much as possible. Through the use of renewable energy, energy-efficient production processes, and sustainable agricultural practices, we actively contribute to improving our climate balance.

Since 2014, we have been working with the Energy Agency of the Economy (EnAW), reporting our emissions annually and discussing possible strategies for efficiency and environmental protection. We are committed to increasing energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gases. These objectives are implemented through action plans over a ten-year period and reviewed annually. The Swiss Federal Office of Energy (SFOE) and the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) have audited our target agreement and confirmed that it has been developed in accordance with the guidelines "Target Agreements with the Federal Government to Increase Energy Efficiency."



## Efficient energy use – responsibility for the future

### *Energy efficiency and solar power*

Our photovoltaic system generates around 75,000 kWh of solar electricity each year, already supplying 15% of our total electricity needs. Over the next few years, we plan to double this share by adding more photovoltaic installations, further reducing our CO<sub>2</sub> footprint.

Starting in 2026, new, highly efficient compressors will be installed to feed the resulting cooling water directly into our heat recovery system.

### *Energy from ethanol recycling – power for 100 single-family homes*

A major contribution to reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is made by recycling our ethanol waste. In 2024, we achieved the following key benchmarks thanks to this effort.

**403,140 kWh  
electricity**

**458,400 kWh  
heat**

**242,000 kg  
CO<sub>2</sub> avoided**





## Our efforts are paying off: CO<sub>2</sub> reduction through organic cultivation

While the cultivation of medicinal plants and vegetables naturally requires resources and generates CO<sub>2</sub> emissions – for example, through soil cultivation, transportation, or irrigation – one crucial aspect must not be overlooked: during their growth, plants actively absorb CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere.

According to the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL), organically managed soils store 170 to 450 kg more carbon per hectare per year in humus compared to conventional soils. This difference is mainly attributed to the perennial cultivation of clover grass and organic fertilization. As a result, water infiltration and retention improve, soil structure becomes more stable, and erosion decreases<sup>1</sup>.

In 2023, A.Vogel AG processed a total of 203 tons of medicinal plants and 487 tons of vegetables. Based on this data, we conducted an internal analysis of our CO<sub>2</sub> balance.

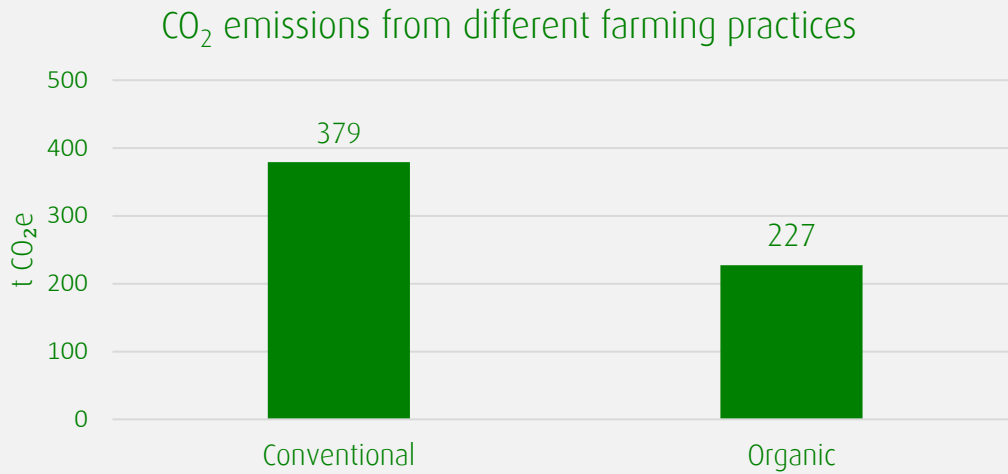
The cultivation of these plants can produce up to 227 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Conventional farming methods generate about 40% more emissions and use 45% more energy<sup>2</sup>. By focusing on organic plant cultivation, up to 152 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> can be avoided annually. The potential net savings are equivalent to the annual output of around 15 Swiss households.



<sup>1</sup> Soil and Climate: Climate Impact of Organic Soil Management. FiBL. (2022)

<sup>2</sup> Climate - Rodale Institute





The end-of-life phase of plants has so far received little attention, even though emissions can arise during composting. At the same time, this stage presents promising opportunities: organic residues from harvest and production could be deliberately used for long-term carbon sequestration, such as by producing biochar, which can also help reduce the need for chemical fertilizers.



## CO<sub>2</sub> Accounting at A.Vogel AG

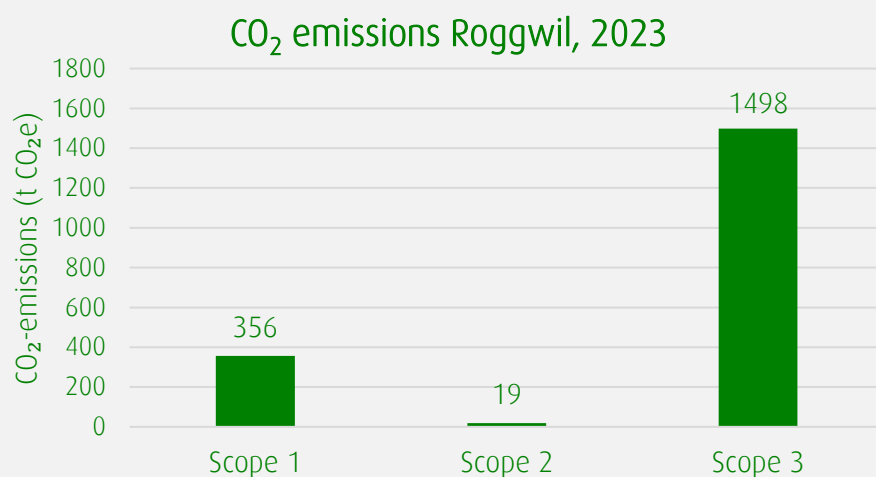
To gain an initial overview of our greenhouse gas emissions, we partnered with myclimate to prepare a CO<sub>2</sub> balance sheet for 2023 at our Roggwil (TG) location. Calculating our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is a complex task that requires a systematic approach.

The accounting process follows the internationally recognized Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG Protocol) using operational boundaries. We categorized emissions by function (such as energy, mobility, transport, and waste) and by the Scopes model of the GHG Protocol. This model distinguishes between direct emissions (Scope 1), indirect emissions from energy purchases (Scope 2), and other indirect emissions throughout the value chain (Scope 3).

Some Scope 3 categories were not fully included in this analysis, as they require more detailed data collection and are more complex to calculate. For instance, emissions from the production of raw materials and packaging, as well as the treatment of packaging waste after consumer use, are not fully covered. However, transport emissions – both upstream (raw material deliveries) and downstream (delivery to customers) – have been partially included.

In 2023, total emissions at the Roggwil site amounted to 1,872 tCO<sub>2</sub>e. Of this, 19% were direct emissions (Scope 1), mainly from heating production facilities and operating refrigeration systems.

Thanks to targeted energy efficiency measures, electricity consumption was reduced. Our in-house solar system also lessened the need to purchase electricity. By using biogas from recycled ethanol waste, we were able to avoid additional emissions. These improvements are also reflected in Scope 2 emissions, which accounted for just 1% of the calculated CO<sub>2</sub> footprint.



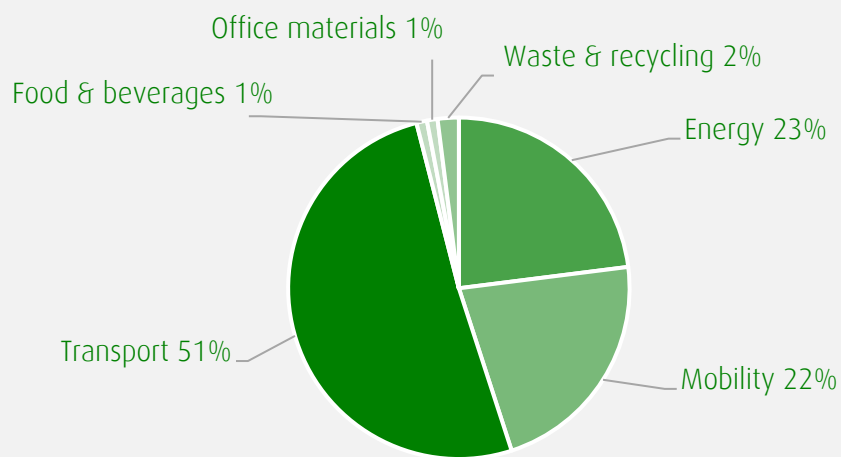
\*Scope 3 (partially included)

About 80% of the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions at A.Vogel in Roggwil fall under Scope 3, meaning they are indirect emissions along the value chain. Many of these processes are outside of our direct control. Since some relevant categories have not yet been fully accounted for, the analysis offers potential for even more precise accounting in the future.

Looking at emissions by category, transport within our operations was responsible for 963 tCO<sub>2</sub>, or 51% of total emissions. As an internationally active company with a high export share, these transport emissions are especially significant.

Employee commuting and business travel (mobility) accounted for around 22% of emissions in 2023. Waste and recycling at the site contributed a further 2% of total emissions.

### CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by category



Since the majority of total emissions originate from upstream and downstream processes, there is significant potential for reduction here – for example, by optimizing the choice of transport methods and routes within our internal supply chains.

Our goal is to continually improve our data foundation in order to complete our greenhouse gas accounting and derive targeted measures for emission reduction. This initial CO<sub>2</sub> balance provides a solid basis for systematic CO<sub>2</sub> management and the ongoing development of our sustainability strategy.



## Our promise

To sustainably reduce our emissions, we will initiate a range of measures and projects. It is important to define actions that are not only feasible but also deliver measurable impact.

## Goals and measures

### Comprehensive CO<sub>2</sub> accounting for A.Vogel AG – Switzerland

We are expanding our existing CO<sub>2</sub> accounting to include all relevant Scope 3 emissions – that is, all indirect emissions generated along the value chain, from raw material sourcing to logistics and disposal. This will provide a robust data foundation for targeted reduction measures and greater climate transparency.

### Product carbon footprint of Echinaforce

We are analysing the product Echinaforce to calculate its specific carbon footprint per unit. This product-level footprint will enable us to identify climate-relevant hotspots within individual production processes and implement targeted improvements.

### Carbon footprint of the A.Vogel Group (Scope 1-3)

We are not only recording the emissions of A.Vogel AG in Switzerland but also those of our subsidiaries worldwide. The goal is to obtain a complete picture of emissions across the entire group, including direct (Scope 1), energy-related (Scope 2), and indirect (Scope 3) emissions.

### Development of a CO<sub>2</sub> reduction pathway in line with SBTi standards (Science Based Targets initiative)

In the long term, we aim to reduce our emissions in alignment with the climate goals of the Paris Agreement. To achieve this, we are developing a scientifically grounded CO<sub>2</sub> reduction pathway based on the standards of the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi).



## Agriculture

*"Organic cultivation as the foundation of our responsibility."*

At A.Vogel, we are committed to sustainable farming methods to ensure the quality of our products while protecting nature. In response to climate change, we continuously develop practical solutions to make our processes future-proof. Our plant-based raw materials come from certified organic cultivation, contract farming, or responsible wild collection – always in compliance with strict ecological and ethical standards such as BIO SUISSE and Good Agricultural and Collection Practices (GACP).



**Over 50%** of our fresh plants are  
harvested in Switzerland

**28%**

come directly  
from neighboring  
countries

**18%**

come from the  
rest of Europe

**1,4%**

outside  
Europe

## In-house cultivation of medicinal plants

16% of our cultivation is carried out internally. This mainly includes the plant Echinacea for the product Echinaforce®. To ensure quality and environmental protection, we carefully select cultivation areas, implement thoughtful crop rotations, and treat nature with respect. Our goal is to make the entire cultivation process sustainable and resource-efficient, from seed to harvest.

As part of organic farming, crop rotation is a crucial factor for maintaining healthy soil, controlling weeds, and preventing disease. Annual field planning and crop rotation are regularly monitored by organic auditors to ensure all organic and sustainable cultivation principles are upheld. When cultivating medicinal plants, we pay particular attention to gentle soil management to avoid damaging the soil structure.

Each plant has its own specific requirements regarding the optimal time and method of harvest. Harvesting is carried out either mechanically – for example using our in-house developed Echinacea harvesting machine – or by hand, especially when harvesting delicate parts such as flowers or roots. This careful and respectful approach ensures that the plants' valuable active ingredients are preserved in the best possible quality.

## Contract farming with local growers

In addition to our own cultivation, we source 55% of our fresh plants from contract farmers with whom we work closely. This collaboration with our contract farmers is a key part of our sustainable approach. We place the highest value on transparent, fair, and sustainable farming practices. Our contract farmers use cultivation methods that protect the soil and the environment. We also ensure that all delivered plants are processed at our facilities no later than the day after harvest, so their essential oils and active ingredients are optimally retained.





## Wild collection of medicinal plants

The remaining 29% of our medicinal plants are gathered from the wild under strict regulations. Only healthy, minimally impacted specimens are collected, always in compliance with laws, conservation guidelines, and with the required official permits. This includes species protection directives, conservation area regulations, and, in particular, the obligation to obtain the appropriate governmental authorizations for any commercial collection activities.

We prioritise ethical and sustainable harvesting, following GACP (Good Agricultural and Collection Practices) to protect both plants and their habitats. For example, we always leave part of each population untouched to support regeneration and species preservation. Every plant's origin is documented, ensuring full traceability and allowing us to verify sources and respond if needed.

Through these transparent, responsible practices, we are dedicated not only to providing high-quality products but also to actively protecting and preserving nature.





## Biodiversity

“Nature provides us with everything we need for our health, but we must treat it with respect and preserve its diversity.”

*Alfred Vogel (1902 - 1996)*

Biodiversity is the foundation of all life on Earth. It ensures stable ecosystems, fertile soils, clean water, and effective pollination – all essential for food production and the cultivation of medicinal plants. The loss of habitats, intensive agriculture, and climate change put many species under severe pressure.

Only in an intact environment can plants fully develop their active ingredients and guarantee a sustainable supply of high-quality medicinal and food plants. Healthy biodiversity results in resilient ecosystems, rich soils, and pollinating insects – all critical factors for the organic cultivation of medicinal plants.





## Our commitment to biodiversity

Today, we consistently focus on sustainable cultivation methods that promote the protection of natural diversity. The following five mechanisms play a central role in this effort.



### Organic cultivation and soil health

On company-owned growing areas as well as at partner farms, synthetic pesticides, herbicides, and artificial fertilisers are consistently avoided. Instead, natural methods such as crop rotation, green manuring, and composting are used.

### Protection of wild populations and sustainable wild harvesting

To avoid overexploitation and protect natural populations, we rely on sustainable harvesting methods that ensure the regeneration of the plants.

### Promoting species-rich cultural landscapes

Wild hedgerows, flowering strips, and mixed crops create valuable habitats for insects, birds, and other wildlife. At the same time, they contribute to plant pollination and natural pest control.



### Experiencing biodiversity

With the publicly accessible biodiversity trail created around the company premises in Roggwil, we are establishing diverse habitats for plants and animals while also raising awareness among visitors about the value of biological diversity.



### Sustainable supply chains and partnerships.

We collaborate globally with certified organic producers. Through long-term partnerships with farmers, we promote fair trade relationships, continuously optimize cultivation methods, and jointly advance sustainable practices.

A close-up photograph of a bee on a purple flower, with green foliage in the background. The image is used as a background for the text overlay.

## Our Promise

Protecting biodiversity is not only a commitment to the environment – it's also an investment in the future. We will continue striving to give more back to nature.

## Goals and measures

### *Biodiversity Monitoring System – Measuring Species Diversity*

Species diversity is a key indicator of ecosystem health. By establishing a biodiversity monitoring system, we are creating – for the first time – a measurable foundation for observing species diversity across our sites. The goal is to detect changes early, derive targeted actions, and support our biodiversity projects with scientific guidance.



## Water

The increasing scarcity of water in many regions around the world highlights the importance of reducing our water consumption and securing the resource for future generations. We use water for the manufacturing of our products, for cooling machinery, for cleaning, and for cultivating our own medicinal plants. Our water is supplied by the local municipality in accordance with national water quality guidelines. For pharmaceutical purposes, we require specially treated water for the production of tinctures, granulates for tablets, and for use in laboratories. This water is processed on-site to meet Pharmacopoeia Europaea (Ph. Eur.) quality standards and is used in the manufacture of our products.

Any resulting wastewater is first treated in an in-house neutralization facility before being discharged into the public sewage system. This process ensures that potentially harmful substances are reduced or neutralized in advance, preventing environmental contamination.





## Responsible use of water

Throughout the operations at A.Vogel, special attention is paid to minimizing water consumption and tapping into alternative water sources. One of the key measures is the use of rainwater. Rainwater is collected from the roofs of company buildings and temporarily stored in an artificially created pond. This water serves as an important reserve for irrigating the company's own fields at the Roggwil site.

In addition to rainwater use, water recovery also plays a significant role. In particular, cooling water used in production is not simply discharged but is instead routed into the pond after use. This cooling water is neither polluted nor contaminated. It is used not only for watering plants but also for operating fountains on the company premises.

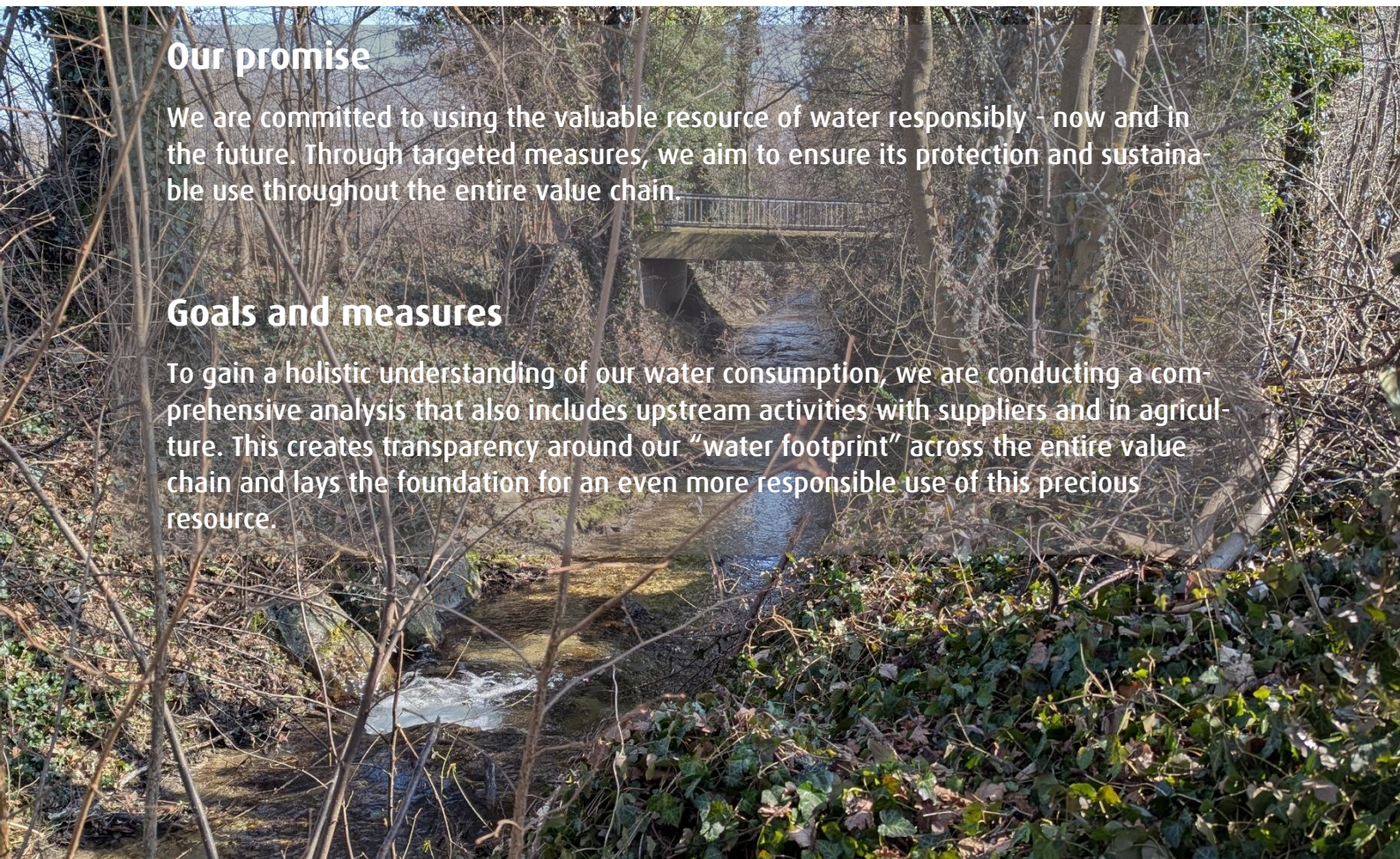
Instead of standardized irrigation of our own cultivation areas, we rely as much as possible on natural rainfall, intervening only when the plants genuinely need water.

### Our promise

We are committed to using the valuable resource of water responsibly - now and in the future. Through targeted measures, we aim to ensure its protection and sustainable use throughout the entire value chain.

### Goals and measures

To gain a holistic understanding of our water consumption, we are conducting a comprehensive analysis that also includes upstream activities with suppliers and in agriculture. This creates transparency around our "water footprint" across the entire value chain and lays the foundation for an even more responsible use of this precious resource.





# Circular Economy

## Operational Waste and Recycling in Roggwil

In a world where resources are increasingly scarce and environmental pollution has far-reaching consequences, it is essential to develop sustainable solutions for waste prevention and recycling.

We have conducted a comprehensive analysis of our waste streams and, based on this, defined targeted measures. Through consistent waste separation and raising awareness among our employees, we strive to make a significant contribution to environmental protection and the sustainable use of resources.

**419t**  
**Waste**

**396t**  
**Waste recycled**

**260t**  
**Ethanol and  
sediments**

**60t**  
**Plant residues**

**95%**  
**Recycling quota  
(including ethanol  
and plant residues)**

**77%**  
**Recycling quota  
(excluding ethanol  
and plant residues)**





Across our value chain, we have identified several waste streams, such as pomace, alcohol, wood, cardboard, paper, plastic, general waste, and electronic devices. These types of waste are generated through our production, administration, packaging, and distribution processes. To establish a systematic and sustainable approach to waste management, we have appointed a dedicated person responsible for overseeing all waste-related activities. At our facility, we carefully separate cardboard, paper, plastic, and special waste in order to maximize recycling potential. We also analyse the ratio of waste volume to production volume to gain valuable insights and guide our ongoing efforts.

## From plant residues to valuable compost

In the production of our herbal remedies, by-products are inevitably created, especially pomace – the solid remains from plant processing. Instead of viewing these valuable organic materials as waste, we fully process them into compost. This nutrient-rich compost serves as a natural fertilizer, stores CO<sub>2</sub> in the soil, and contributes to the promotion of biodiversity.

## Continuous improvement and employee awareness

Waste separation and reduction are not one-off measures but ongoing processes. Regular training and awareness programs ensure that sustainable practices are firmly anchored in our daily work culture. One example is the conscious use of office supplies: before ordering new products, employees check whether existing materials from other departments can be used up first.





## Packaging

Packaging and its associated waste are key concerns for our wholesalers, retailers, consumers, and regulatory authorities, all of whom demand measurable progress toward more sustainable packaging and waste reduction. Our aim is to make packaging materials as environmentally friendly as possible while still meeting the strict regulatory standards of the pharmaceutical industry. In doing so, we prioritise safety, quality, and environmental sustainability equally.

For primary packaging, we mainly use glass. This material offers several advantages: it is inert, protects the valuable ingredients in our products from external influences, and can be recycled almost indefinitely. Glass contains no harmful chemicals that could leach into the product, thus ensuring the high quality and purity of our products.

However, we are also aware of the drawbacks of glass. It is heavier than many alternative packaging materials, leading to higher transport costs and increased CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Glass production also requires significant amounts of energy, especially when melting it down for recycling. Despite these challenges, we remain committed to glass as our preferred packaging material and are continually seeking ways to minimise its disadvantages.



A portion of our packaging materials, such as tubes for creams or dropper bottles for sprays, is made of plastic derived from fossil resources. These materials are often recyclable; however, certain products require a vapor barrier or coating, which can make the material non-recyclable. A key element of our sustainable packaging strategy is therefore the use of FSC-certified materials for packaging made from renewable resources.

## Challenges posed by regulatory requirements

As a company in the pharmaceutical and food industries, we are subject to strict regulations, including Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP). These requirements ensure that our packaging meets the highest safety and quality standards. At the same time, they make it more difficult to use some sustainable alternatives, as materials must undergo extensive testing before being approved. In the field of pharmaceuticals, any change to packaging must be registered with the authorities in each respective country. Despite these challenges, it remains our goal to integrate innovative and environmentally friendly solutions into our packaging strategy.







## Our promise

To minimise packaging waste, we continuously optimise our processes and increasingly rely on recycled materials. We collaborate with our suppliers, partners, and customers to reduce transport packaging and to find solutions that are less material-intensive. Our journey toward less waste is far from over – our vision is to minimise the amount of non-recyclable waste as much as possible and to further increase recycling rates. Through consistent process optimisation and the active involvement of all employees, we are fully committed to fulfilling our environmental responsibility.

## Our goals and measures

Together with our subsidiaries, we are launching an international project to reduce packaging waste. The goal is to optimise packaging and, wherever possible, to use recyclable or biodegradable materials.



## Our sustainability goals until 2028

- 
- A photograph of a tractor plowing a field, with mountains in the background. The image is used as a background for the sustainability goals list.
1. **Global analysis** of supply chains with regard to ESG risks
  2. Strengthening the **feedback culture** by increasing employee survey frequency
  3. **Assess the CO<sub>2</sub> footprint** or **life cycle assessment** of Echinaforce®
  4. **Assess the CO<sub>2</sub> footprint** of the A.Vogel Group (Scope 1–3)
  5. Development of a **CO<sub>2</sub> reduction pathway** according to **SBTi** standards (Science-Based Targets initiative)
  6. **Biodiversity monitoring system** – measurement of species diversity
  7. **Water footprint** – analysis of total water consumption including upstream activities
  8. **Packaging waste reduction** – project with the subsidiaries
  9. **Complete CO<sub>2</sub> accounting** for A.Vogel AG



# Appendix

## Key Performance Indicators

The following key performance indicators apply exclusively to A.Vogel AG in Switzerland.

### Health – focusing on people’s well-being

Monitoring of product quality	2024
Number of internal GMP trainings for monitoring product quality	90
Product recalls due to health or safety risks	0
Product recalls (not health-related)	3
Authorities/Regulatory actions: due to violations of safety requirements	0

### Integrity – building a strong corporate governance

Employees and corporate Governance	2024
Proportion of part-time employees (%)	38%
Employees with more than 5 years of tenure (%)	75%
Employees receiving annual performance evaluations	100%
Employee survey participation rate (2022)	90%
Employee satisfaction rate (2022)	72%
Number of workplace accidents	2
Lost time injury rate (LTI rate)	1.8
Number of reported compliance incidents	0
Number of confirmed incidents of corruption and bribery	0
Use of whistleblowing service (number of reports received, anonymized)	0

## Love for nature – greenhouse gas emissions

The emission figures for A.Vogel AG are from 2023. For the calculation of intensity, the amount of processed plants and vegetables in 2023 was used as the reference value.

Total amount of processed fresh plants in Roggwil, CH 2023	202.8t
Total amount of processed vegetables in Colmar, FR 2023	487.1t

<b>Energy consumption [MWh]</b>	<b>2023</b>
Total electricity consumption	1,504
Total renewable electricity consumption (on-site solar)	177
Total fossil energy consumption (natural gas for heating)	1,456
Energy consumption of cooling	0.5
Total energy consumption	3,137
<b>Energy intensity [MWh]</b>	<b>2023</b>
Scope 1 & 2 energy intensity [energy per 1,000 kg of processed fresh plants]	15.5

<b>Recovered energy from ethanol waste</b>	<b>2023</b>
Electricity [MWh]	403
Heat [MWh]	458
Avoided CO <sub>2</sub> [t CO <sub>2</sub> e]	242

<b>GHG emissions - Scope 1 [t CO<sub>2</sub>e]</b>	<b>2023</b>
Direct emissions (Scope 1)	356
Scope 1 emission intensity [kg CO <sub>2</sub> e / 1,000 kg processed plant material]	1.754
<b>GHG emissions - Scope 2 [t CO<sub>2</sub>e]</b>	<b>2023</b>
Indirect emissions (Scope 2)	19
Scope 2 intensity [kg CO <sub>2</sub> e / 1,000 kg processed plant material]	0.1
<b>GHG emissions - Scope 3 [t CO<sub>2</sub>eq]</b>	<b>2023</b>
Value chain emissions (Scope 3)	1,498
Scope 3 intensity [kg CO <sub>2</sub> e / 1,000 kg processed plant material]	2.2
<b>Total intensity [t CO<sub>2</sub>e]</b>	<b>2023</b>
GHG-Intensity (Scope 1–3) [kg CO <sub>2</sub> e / 1,000 kg processed plant material]	4.017



## Love for nature – agriculture

<b>Agriculture</b>	<b>2024</b>
Transparency and traceability	100%
Share of own cultivation (plants)	15.6%
Share of contract cultivation (plants)	55.1%
Share of wild collection (plants)	29.3%
Share of organic cultivation (of total processed plants)	85.6%
Origin Switzerland (of total processed plants)	53%
Origin neighboring countries (of total processed plants)	27.9%
Origin Europe (of total processed plants)	17.7%
Origin outside Europe (of total processed plants)	1.4%
Share of contract cultivation (Vegetables)	100%
Share of organic cultivation (of total processed vegetables)	100%
Share of regionally sourced (vegetable wuanity) from France	6.3%
Share of regionally sourced (Vegetable Quantity) from neighboring countries	93.7%

## Love for nature – biodiversity

<b>Biodiversity</b>	<b>2024</b>
Share of company area designed to be biodiversity-friendly	-
Share of plant-based raw materials from organic farming	95.6%
Number of implemented biodiversity projects (e.g., renaturation)	1

## Love for nature – water

<b>Water extraction [m3]</b>	<b>2024</b>
Total freshwater extraction	14,773
Total water extraction from all areas with water scarcity	0
<b>Water discharge [m3]</b>	<b>2024</b>
Total water discharge to all areas	10,279
Surface water	0
Groundwater	0
Wastewater treatment plant	10,279
<b>Water consumption [m3]</b>	<b>2024</b>
Total water consumption from all areas	4,994

## Love for nature – waste

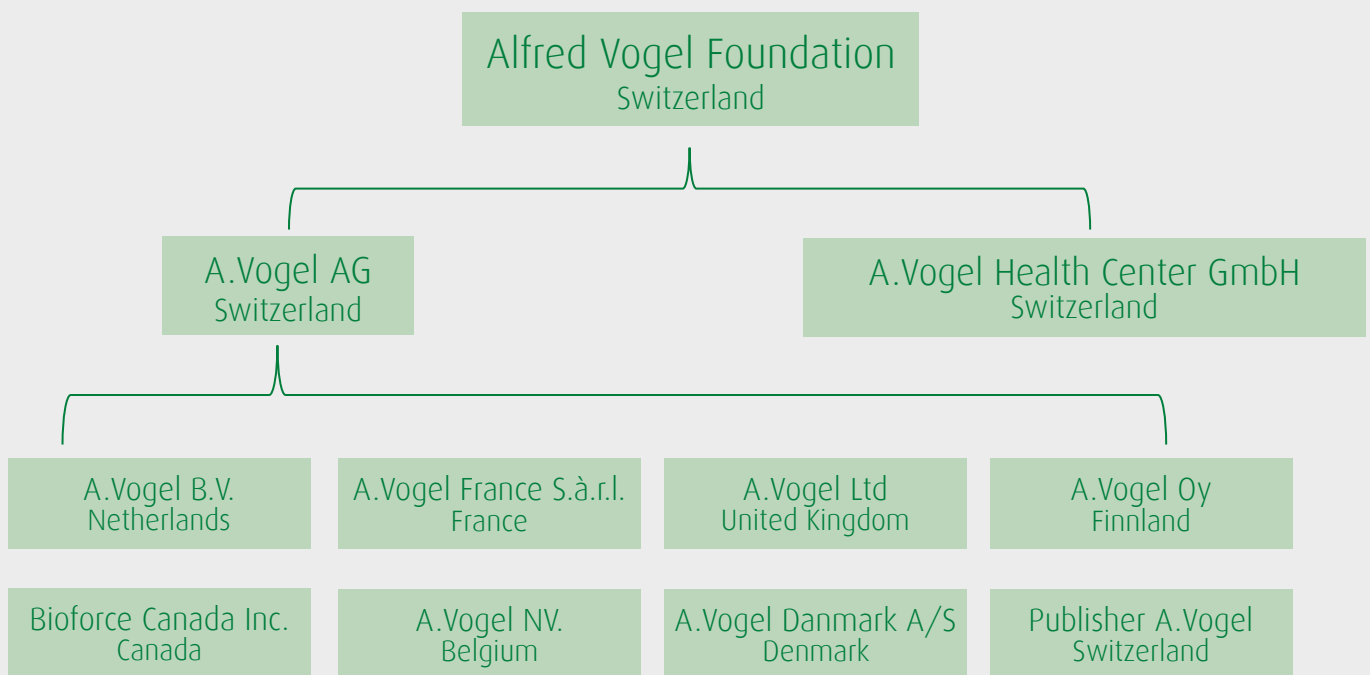
<b>Total generated waste [t]</b>	<b>2024</b>
Total generated waste	419
Hazardous waste including distillates and sediments (ethanol)	260
Distillate and sediment (ethanol)	258
Special waste	2
Non-hazardous waste, including pomace (plant waste)	159
Pomace (plant residues)	60
<b>Recycling [t]</b>	<b>2024</b>
Total weight of recycled waste (including pomace)	396
Total weight of recycled and hazardous waste including distillates and sediments (ethanol)	258
Total weight of recycled and non-hazardous waste	136
Other waste (wood, metal, glass, electronic waste, cardboard, plastic, paper)	78
Pomace (plant residues)	60
<b>Recycling rate</b>	<b>2024</b>
Recycled waste in relation to total waste (with pomace & ethanol)	95%
Recycled waste in relation to total waste (without pomace, without ethanol)	77%
<b>Waste intensity (without pomace, without ethanol)</b>	<b>2024</b>
Waste generation rate; total waste kg per 1,000 kg processed plants, without pomace (60t), without ethanol (258t)	0.5



## A.Vogel world – a network for health

The Alfred Vogel Foundation is committed to preserving, continuing, and promoting the naturopathic legacy of Alfred Vogel. In doing so, it supports the companies he founded and their dedicated work in line with his principles.

The A.Vogel Group operates internationally and is represented by subsidiaries in various countries. All companies are committed to shared corporate values: sustainability, scientifically based quality, and naturalness. The subsidiaries A.Vogel Netherlands (NL) and A.Vogel France (FR) run their own production facilities and thus make an essential contribution to product manufacturing. A.Vogel UK has its own filling and packaging plant to supply the British market efficiently and locally. The other subsidiaries function as distribution companies and are responsible for the sales and marketing of A.Vogel products in their respective markets.



## A.Vogel B.V in Elburg, Netherlands

### Biodiversity and ecology

The A.Vogel gardens in 't Harde are a prime example of sustainable cultivation. Medicinal plants and herbs grow on 14 hectares – 100% organically farmed! Up to 50,000 kg of fresh plants are harvested here annually and processed within just two hours to preserve the maximum efficacy of their active ingredients. 70% of the processed plants come from the company's own cultivation. By forgoing artificial fertilizers and chemical pesticides, and by adhering to the EKO quality standard, A.Vogel NL makes an important contribution to sustainable agriculture.

### Visitor center: experiencing sustainability firsthand

With over 30,000 visitors in 2023 alone, the visitor center plays a central role in environmental education. The building was constructed to be CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral using sustainable materials. A.Vogel NL also collaborates with the 's Heerenloo Foundation to provide meaningful employment opportunities for people with special needs at the visitor center.





## A.Vogel France in Colmar, France

For 40 years, we have stood for the highest quality and a sustainable corporate philosophy. Sustainability is a fundamental principle of the A.Vogel Group and is consistently implemented in France as well. 100% of the processed plants come from certified organic cultivation. In addition to exclusively using organic ingredients, production processes are carried out according to strict quality and environmental standards.

### Herbamare® – Naturalness and quality from France

A prime example of sustainable production is Herbamare®, the renowned herbal salt from A.Vogel. It combines 1/3 fresh organic vegetables with 2/3 sea salt and is produced in Colmar using a unique process. The sea salt used comes from the salt pans of Aigues-Mortes in the Camargue and is harvested by experienced salt workers. A.Vogel France focuses not only on sustainable ingredients but also on environmentally friendly production and packaging methods. The Herbamare® packaging consists of biodegradable cardboard and a recyclable lid.





## Other Subsidiaries



# A.Vogel Ltd

United Kingdom

# Bioforce Canada Inc.

Canada



# A.Vogel Danmark A/s

Denmark

# A.Vogel Oy

Finnland



# A.Vogel NV

Belgium



## GRI Index

The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) is an independent, international organization that supports companies and other entities in taking responsibility for their impacts. It provides guidelines for communicating these impacts, aiming for systematic, transparent, and comparable sustainability reporting. This content index serves as a guide to the disclosed information within the sustainability report, according to the GRI Standards.

### Statement of use:

A.Vogel AG has disclosed the information listed in this GRI Content Index for the period from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024 (with the exception of the Greenhouse Gas Emissions chapter, which refers to 2023), *with reference to* the GRI Standards. Standard applied: GRI 1: Foundation 2021.

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