

De aanwezigen kunnen terugkijken op een zeer gezellige en interessante dag. Het gebruik van het Engels als voertaal zal in het najaar onder de leden worden geïnventariseerd. Hierna worden

nog enkele nagekomen samenvattingen en ALV-stukken gepubliceerd, die tijdens deze dag zijn uitgedeeld.

Nagekomen samenvattingen

Preventive and curative control of Botrytis stem infestation in tomato using chemical and non-chemical measures

Jantineke Hofland-Zijlstra¹, Jürgen Köhl² and Sabine Böhne¹

¹ Wageningen UR Greenhouse Horticulture, P.O. Box 20, 2665 ZG, Bleiswijk; e-mail: jantineke.hofland-zijlstra@wur.nl

² Plant Research International, P.O. Box 16, 6700 AA, Wageningen; e-mail: jurgen.kohl@wur.nl

Every year, Botrytis stem infestation is responsible for considerable crop losses in greenhouse tomatoes. Wounds produced by the common practice of pulling of old leaves frequently are the main infection site for the fungus. No effective control agents for curing infected plants are available. In 2008, WUR Greenhouse Horticulture performed field tests on a mature tomato crop with two synthetic fungicides (imazalil and menapyrim), two fungal antagonists (*Trichoderma harzianum* and *Gliocladium catenulatum*) and the enzymatic product Enzicur (lactoperoxidase activity). This project was financed by the Dutch Horticultural Board.

For testing the preventive activity, fresh stem wounds were treated with a control agent first, then with spores of *Botrytis cinerea* and finally sealed with plastic covers to enhance sporulation. After two days, the cover was removed and the wounds were monitored for infection during six subsequent weeks. On the control sites showing initial sporulation, curative treatments were performed with the same products one week later. Both imazalil and menapyrim showed good preventive protection, with imazalil producing slight phytotoxic symptoms. They also inhibited *Botrytis* growth on the wound, but could not prevent the rotting of the stem and eventually the loss of the plant. Also the biological control agents *Trichoderma harzianum* and *Gliocladium catenulatum* were perfectly able to prevent *Botrytis* attack, but did not show curative activity. In this trial, the Enzicur treatment was not effective.

Other wound treatments tested were: chalk, clay (Scania Vital Silica), Botri-spray (plant extracts) and forced drying with a hairdryer. Treating with

chalk showed the best results, leaving the stem both uninfected and undamaged. The clay and Botri-spray treatments also showed good preventive control, but after one or two weeks the stems developed cracks, in which new infections of *Botrytis* may appear. A single treatment with the hairdryer was not effective.

In the near future, imazalil and menapyrim will become registered for controlling Botrytis stem infection in tomato. The results of this greenhouse trial will be used in the registration process of the biological control agents tested. Adequate crop care like clean cutting of old leaves instead of pulling remains important as control measure against Botrytis stem infection in the greenhouse.

European Expert Centre for Specialty Crops in the Netherlands: dream or reality?

Jo Ottenheim

Nefyto; e-mail: nefyto@nefyto.nl

The strength of Dutch agriculture and horticulture lies in highly specialized and high value crops, also known as Specialty Crops. However, crops with a relatively small area do not provide sufficient return on investment for a company to support a registration of a plant protection product (PPP). The Netherlands has quite a number of these crops and therefore developed and implemented various specific tools to realize authorizations for PPPs for these crops: extra capacity at various farmers organizations to work on solutions, funding to support research and