Substrate systems chrysanthemum

Systems and production, two crop cycles



Tycho Vermeulen, Chris Blok, Rashied Khodabaks





Background

- Environmental policy
 - Emission must be zero on 2027
- Soil-based cultivation
 - less pesticides and fertilizers to surface waters
- Soil-based cultivation Netherland: 1300 ha
 - Chrysanthemum: 485 ha (162 farmers)
 - 250 kg N + 25 kg P / Ha / year



Project goal

- 1. Develop Substrate Bed as an alternative to soil-based cultivation in chrysanthemums.
- 2. Emission-free production systems



Finance

- Financed by:
 - Ministry of Transport, Public works and Water management. (KRW-subsidie)
 - Product board horticulture
 - Ministry of LNV





<u>Partners</u>



























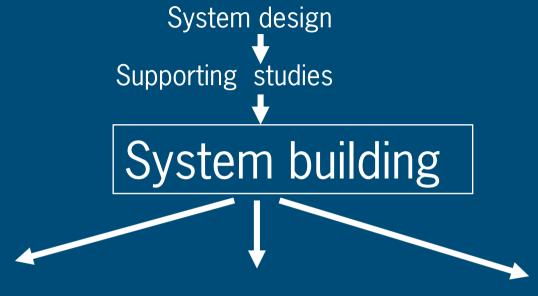






landbouw, natuur en voedselkwaliteit

Projectplan Substrate bed



Financiering:

Senter Novem.

PT

Monitoring of Systems: Iterative improvement

Research on the system:

- 1. Homogeneity in time and space
- 2. System variation
- 3. Recovery of physical properties
- 4. Suppression of root diseases
- 5. Integrated pest management

Communication:

- Co-innovation
- Visitors days
- Publicities



System design

System requirements (users, experts, stakeholders)

- No emission
- Profitable
- Adaptable in current practise
- Meeting plant physiological demands
 - Uniformity on each plant position
 - Control of rhizosphere
 - Restore of physical properties of substrate after growth cycles
- Preventing of root diseases



Systems concepts

11 different system concepts were developed

- Deep soil bed (1)
- Sand bed (2)
- Peat bed (3)
- Clay grain bed (2)
- Thin mat (2)
- Cassette system (1)

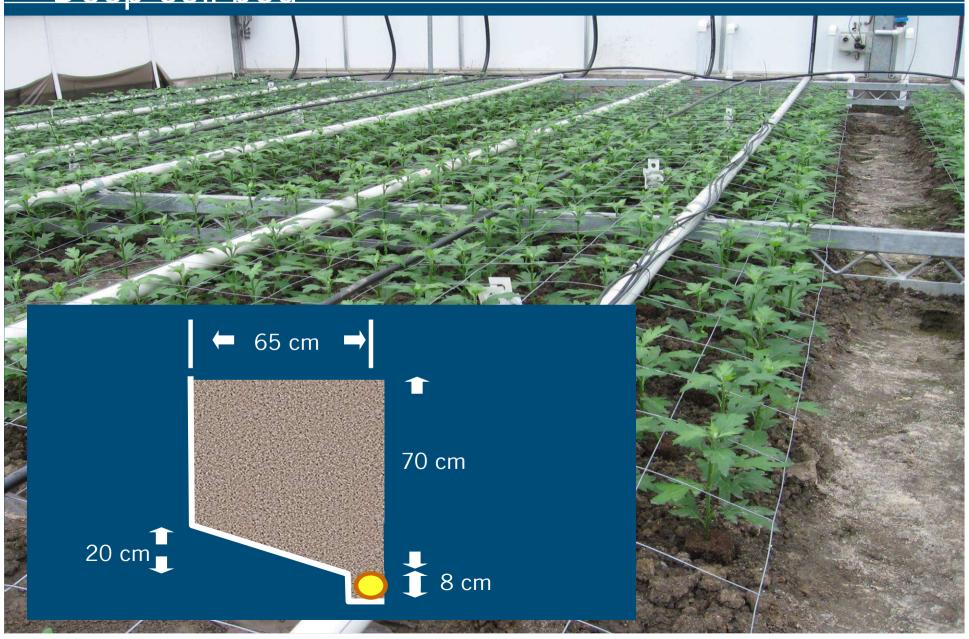


Systems selected for testing

- 1. Deep soil bed
- 2. Sand bed
- 3. Peat bed
- 4. Lily crate
- 5. Cassette bed
- 6. Cassette box



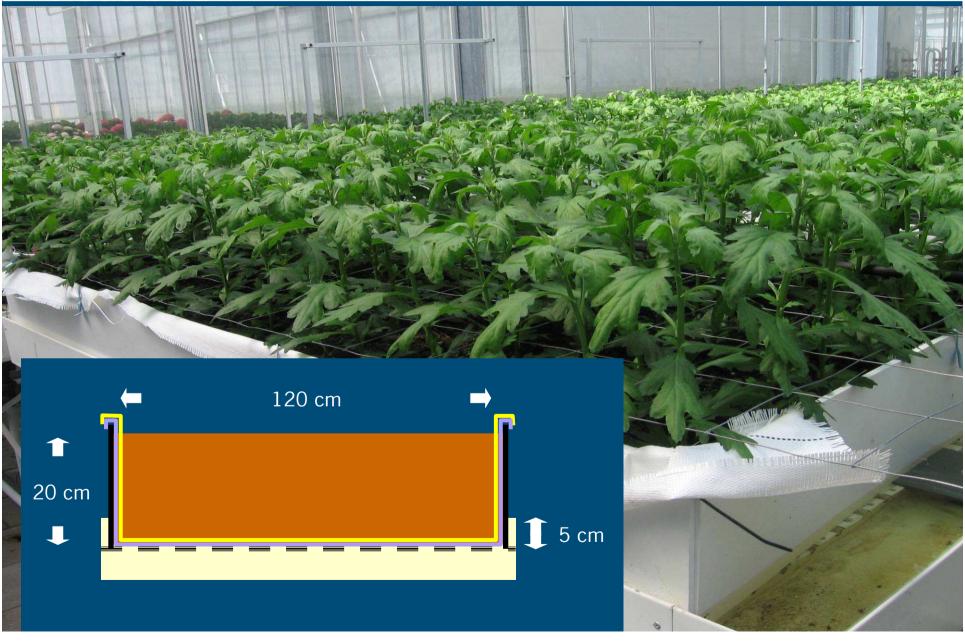
Deep soil bed



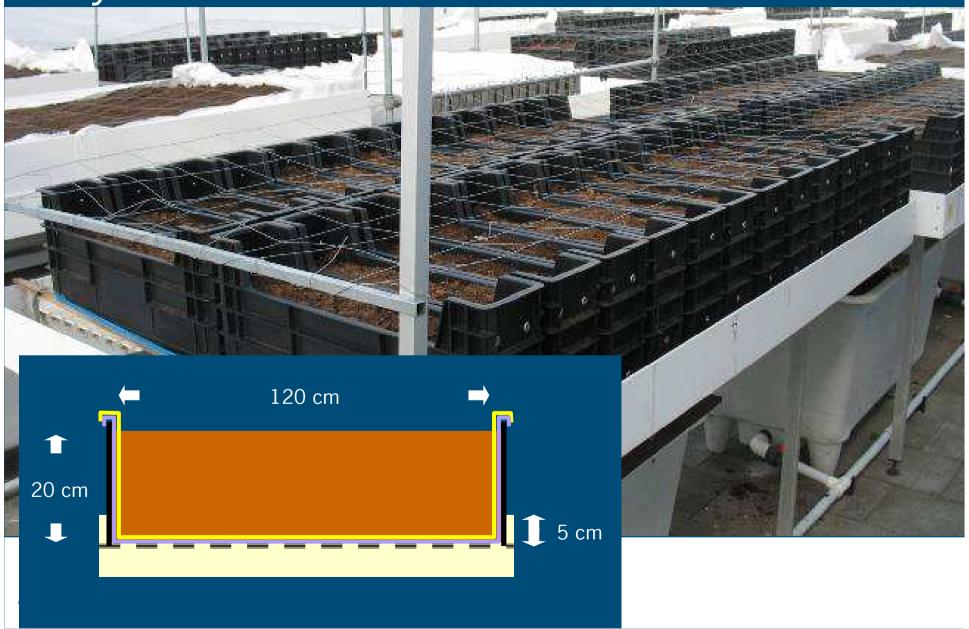
Sand bed



Peat bed



Lily crate



Cassette bed





Cassette box





Details of first and second crop

	First crop		Second crop	
Systems	Peatbed Lily crates cassettebed	Deep soil bed Sand bed	Peatbed Lily crates Cassettebed Cassettebox	Deep soil bed Sand bed
Plant method	Direct sticking	Press pots	Direct sticking	Press pots
Planting date	14 July	9 July	26 October	
Plant density	55		50	
Number of long days	21	13	20	14
Duration of cultivation	72	81	75	85

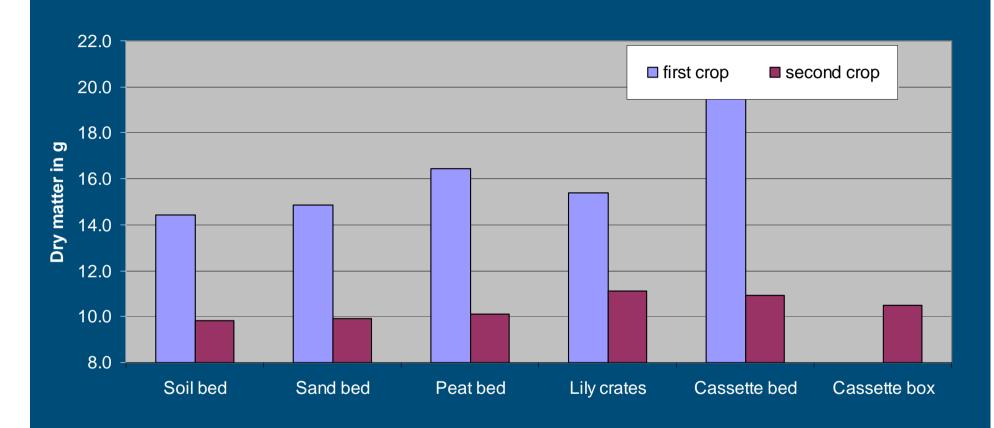


Results- fresh weight





Results – Dry matter





Sandbed



First crop EC = 2.4



Second crop EC = 2.8



Roots Cassettebox





WORTELS: zanbed (I) grondbed (r)





Conclusion

- Direct sticking grows faster (> 4 days) than the press pots
- Starting on sand beds is faster than in soil (> 3 days)
- Deep soil bed gave a good production probably comparable with soil-based cultivation
- Sand bed had higher production and react fast on change in EC and pH (steering of EC and pH possible)



Conclusion

- Peat bed had 10 % higher production compare to deep soil bed in the first crop but the production was only 3% higher in the second crop.
- Because of the large volume substrate in the Peat bed it was difficult steering EC and pH
- Cassette bed 15 % higher production with 5 days longer cropping time
- Cassettebox had good potentials, plant length and fresh weight was comparable to the other direct sticking systems



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