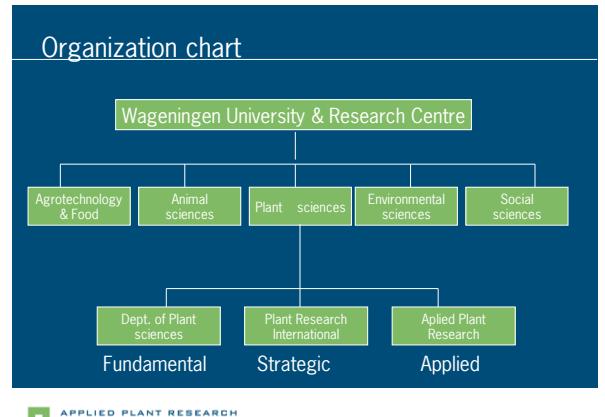


# Soilless Cultivation Nursery Stock

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Henk van Reuler 18 april 2011 Randwijk

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## Nursery stock in the Netherlands

- About 16.000 ha
- 1.000 ha pot / containers
- 15.000 ha open field production
- > 600 m € production value
- > 60 % exported of which 90% to Western Europe

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## Challenges of the nursery stock

- (Chain) Quality
- Labour
- Pests and Diseases
- Environmental legislation
- Economics
- Optimizing and controlled growth



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## Research themes PPO

- Quality production
- Propagation and breeding
- Crop protection, soils and fertilization
- Sustainable farming and networks
- Economics and management
- Chain, logistics




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## Water quality

- European legislation

Groundwater	Nitrate content < 50 mg NO <sub>3</sub> /l
Surface water	N and P content
	Crop protection chemicals

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## Project

- Government environment – water quality
- Growers profitability, labour, soil related problems, ...., environment
- Research matching different aims

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Gutter system

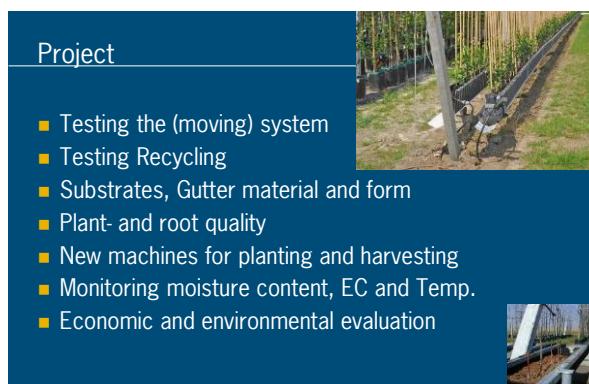
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## Advantages

- Product quality
- Labour and logistics
- Closed systems, no leaching
- Almost no herbicides
- Automation of work
- Profit (more plants per meter)
- Broadening of assortment



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Project

- Testing the (moving) system
- Testing Recycling
- Substrates, Gutter material and form
- Plant- and root quality
- New machines for planting and harvesting
- Monitoring moisture content, EC and Temp.
- Economic and environmental evaluation

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## Labour: spreading and quality



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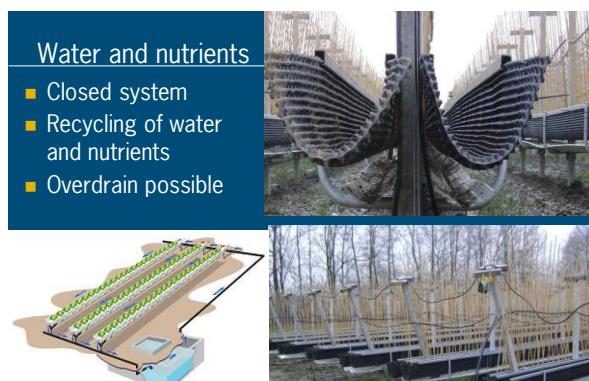




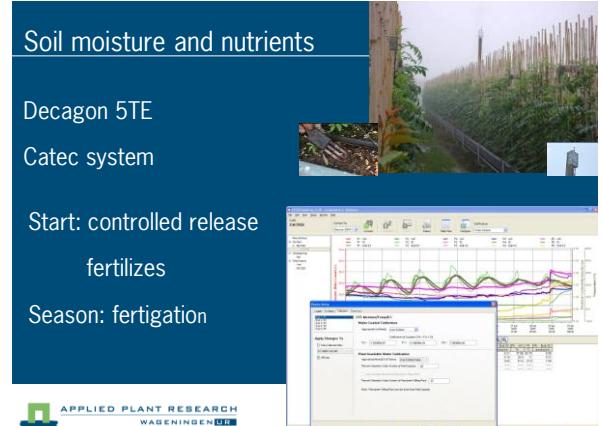
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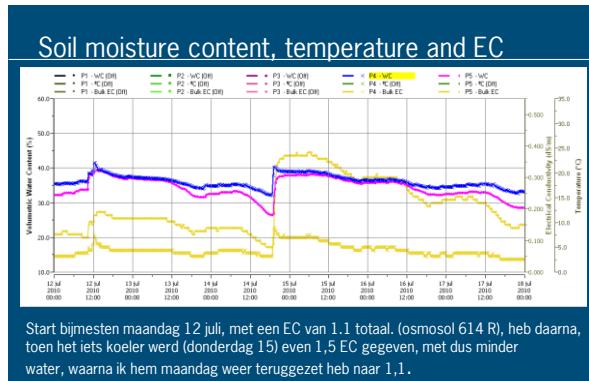
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### Harvesting and plant quality



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### Overview environmental points (MBP) 2010

	MbP waterleven		MbP bodemleven		MbP grondwater		MbP totaal	
	referentie	goot 2010	referentie	Goot 2010	referentie	Goot 2010	referentie	Goot 2010
Insecticiden	51	69	8	11	314	153	373	233
Fungiciden	5	5	49	10	300	2	354	17
Herbiciden	886	453	401	178	1466	208	2753	839
<b>total</b>	<b>942</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>2080</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>3479</b>	<b>1089</b>

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## Reduction 2010 compared with reference

- Herbicides - 70%
- Fungicides - 95%
- Insecticides - 38% (3 x Decis)
- Total environmental impact 69% lower

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## Links: ondergoot voor opvang drainagewater



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## Conclusions

- Good growth
- Good plant quality
- Shortening of production period
- Loss of plants 4 – 8 %
- Gutter system has potential
- Lot of interest (5 growers!)
- Big environmental gains



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## Next stage in the chain



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