

INTRODUCTION

No success without knowledge



Horticulture in the Netherlands is renowned worldwide for its leading position and the sector has – together with plant breeding – been earmarked as a primary sector for the Dutch economy.

The Netherlands is also renowned for the way the horticultural industry and research & education institutes cooperate with each other and with the government. The open nature of our knowledge development and the easily accessible way in which all results are made available, together with the collective *modus operandi*, are important success factors and drivers for innovation in the knowledge-intensive horticultural sector.

In many cases innovations result from the way knowledge about processes is combined with available techniques and practical experience within and beyond the sector. This is why the organisers of Horti Fair explicitly chose to pay extra attention to knowledge exchange with input from research and industry in addition to the direct product presentations on the fair floor. The seminars formed an excellent platform for the interactive exchange of knowledge, practical experience and best practices on issues such as new sustainable production techniques, nutrition, and water, the central theme of Horti Fair.

The seminars at Horti Fair gave visitors from all over the world an excellent chance to jointly take steps forward to the sustainable development of horticulture. This publication offers an informative summary of the presented seminars.

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