

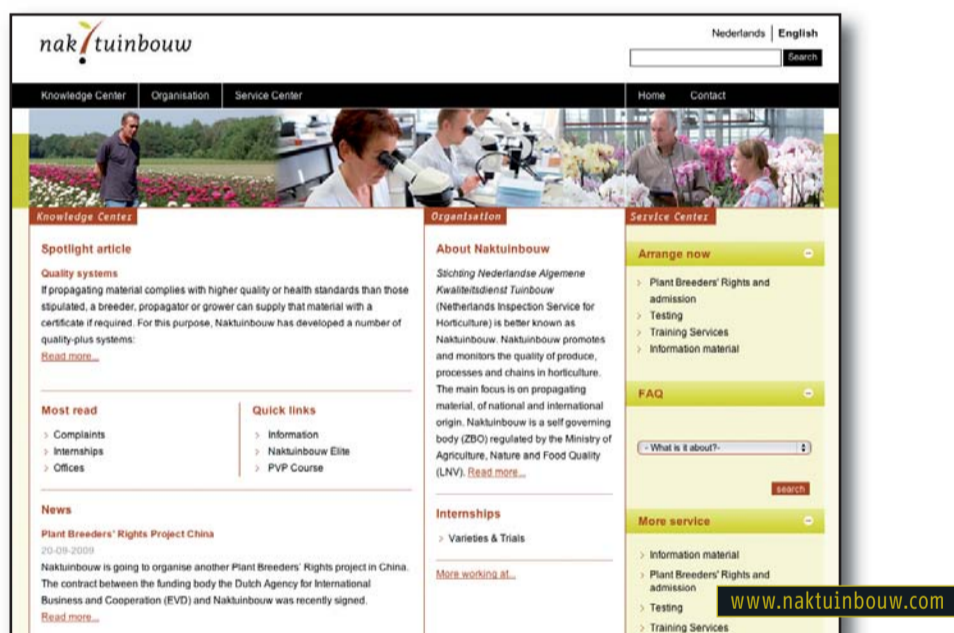
- Evaluation EU Phytosanitary Directive
- Registration & Certification Fruit Crops 2012
- Great Increase in PCR Assays
- Conference 'Virus & Diseases Fruit Crops'
- Approval PSTVd Test in Tomato Seeds
- Indonesia: Update PBR / ISTA Applicant
- Accreditation Programme Hygiene Tomato
- Naktuinbouw PVP Course / Book / Horti Fair

Naktuinbouw = Quality in Horticulture!

www.naktuinbouw.com

New Website

During the Horti Fair, Naktuinbouw will be launching its new website. Interactivity and user friendliness sums up the goal of the website.



In a totally new style with a recognisable, distinctive design Naktuinbouw will be showcasing its activities and its knowledge on the new website www.naktuinbouw.com (English) or in the Dutch language www.naktuinbouw.nl. A user friendly site, so users can quickly access the information they need. The old website reflected the departmental structure of Naktuinbouw, so visitors regularly had to do a lot of detective work to find information on a specific subject. The new website has been streamlined into three sections – Knowledge Center, Organisation and Service Center. Once the homepage has been accessed, visitors can select one of the three sections. Then visitors can easily switch between the various sections.

Knowledge Center

The Knowledge Center section shows site visitors the latest news and a variety of background information about many subjects (articles). The subjects covered include the tests performed by Naktuinbouw and information about training services for professionals, but also practical information such as: *How do I submit a sample?* or: *How can I register my variety for testing?* The articles here answer these questions and provide a direct link to the Service Center.

Service Center

In the Service Center section visitors can arrange all kinds of things, such as, for example, filling in

forms, subscribing to the Newsletter and ordering documents. Visitors can also download folders here, apply to attend training courses and consult the FAQ section.

Organisation

As the name suggests, Organisation is all about the organisational aspects at Naktuinbouw – the departments with the activities, vacancies, internships and contact details. Details about the board and the representatives in the Naktuinbouw sector boards can also be found here. The film on the homepage gives an impression of the activities and diversity of Naktuinbouw in a few minutes.

FAQs

A separate section has been reserved for FAQs. Visitors can search for specific subjects here and refine their search by looking in the FAQs.

Further developments

In a follow up phase – end of 2009 / early 2010 – details of the registered companies will be linked in a separate website-section, My Naktuinbouw. This will make filling in forms easier and companies can view the status of an on-going test.

Comments

Any questions or remarks about the new website? Please contact us via: info@naktuinbouw.nl

China

New Plant Breeders' Rights Project

Naktuinbouw is going to organise another Plant Breeders' Rights project in China. The contract between the funding body the Dutch Agency for International Business and Cooperation (EVD) and Naktuinbouw was recently signed.

In 2007 and 2008 Naktuinbouw organised a Plant Breeders' Rights project in China. During the project many Chinese variety testers in China and the Netherlands were trained in DUS testing. Methods and procedures were closely examined with the aim of streamlining them.

Follow up

After the Plant Breeders' Rights project was completed in 2008, the Chinese and Dutch project partners realised there was still a lot to be achieved. Plantum NL supported the idea of setting up a follow up project. During the closing symposium in Beijing in November 2008 the Chinese ministry, Plantum NL and Naktuinbouw signed a Letter of Intent, to continue further collaboration.

Project

This Letter of Intent has resulted in a two-year project. Once again the emphasis will be on technical training. Both China and the Netherlands

have indicated the specific crops the training will concern. Via Plantum NL, Dutch companies with specific crop knowledge will be involved in the in company training sessions.

Crops

For companies wishing to market new varieties in China it is crucial that there is a solid Plant Breeders' Rights system in place for as many crops as possible. The Dutch Agricultural Council in China and the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (LNV) in The Hague will be involved in helping to persuade the Chinese to place more crops on the list of crops to be protected and to tighten up the regulations on farm saved seed.

More information?

For more information about the project, please contact Peter Lentjes, tel. +31 (0)71 332 61 36 or e-mail: p.lentjes@naktuinbouw.nl



Naktuinbouw meeting with Chinese ministries MoA and SFA

Evaluation EU Phytosanitary Directive

Recently the EU Commission started a project to evaluate the Phytosanitary Directive 2000/29. In the opinion of the Board of Naktuinbouw this evaluation can present a good opportunity to modernise the directive.

After its initial introduction and the creation of the Plant Passport system in 1993, the main lines of the directive have not been changed. Under the French EU presidency in 2008, a proposal was presented to evaluate the Directive.

Topics

The basic topics that require attention include:

- The very long list of quarantine diseases makes it difficult to focus on major phytosanitary risks.
- Differences are apparent between Member States in their implementation of requirements and how the system is financed.
- Plant passports are not standardized. A variety of types/forms are used for all kinds of products.

- In many cases, the directive asks for official tests and inspections. Accreditation of suppliers and laboratories is not possible.
- In many cases, inspection methods and protocols are not harmonized.

Report

The EU Commission appointed a company consortium FCEC to conduct the evaluation. FCEC started in August by sending a questionnaire to Member States and to international organisations of stakeholders. In 2010, it is expected that further questionnaires will be sent and more interviews will be held. At the end of 2010 a report containing suggestions for improvements has to be presented to the EU and its Member States.

Opportunity

In the opinion of the Board of Naktuinbouw this evaluation presents a good opportunity to modernise the directive. The list of quarantine diseases might be reduced to the real threats, further harmonization of inspection and testing methods is supported and the desired accreditation of sound phytosanitary safeguard systems used by producers of plant and seeds can possibly be realised. Organisations of seed and plant producers and traders might also take this opportunity to strongly advocate their views.



Phytosanitary inspection



Variety Registration and EU Certification Scheme Fruit Crops 2012

On 1st October 2012 the new EU Directive for the marketing of propagating material of fruit crops will come into force. This directive will replace the existing directive 92/34 and also contains some new elements.

The EU Commission is expected to take a decision in the autumn about implementing certain measures. Many aspects will remain roughly the same, such as the registration requirements, supplier's responsibility, exemptions for local marketing and marketing to non-commercial end users, import requirements, etc. The most attention will be for two new developments which

relate to variety registration and certification.

Variety registration

New varieties, introduced after 30 September 2012, must be officially registered. Plants and other propagating material of these new varieties may only be marketed if the new variety is DUS (Distinct, Uniform and Stable). Examinations have to

be carried out by official bodies and the new varieties must be registered in one of the Member States.

Existing varieties will either be automatically registered or listing can take place based on an official recognition of the existing description. It is not certain yet if there will also be a common EU list of varieties in addition to the 27 National Member State registers.

Certification

Most Member States currently have their own system and

regulations for certifying propagating material. It is not always possible to use certified material from one Member State in the system of another Member State. A new EU system will enable this.

Future

The EU Commission is currently developing the standards for the EU Certification Scheme. Draft proposals for *Malus* and *Prunus* have been set up. Proposal for the EU schemes are expected to be finalised in the beginning of 2010.



Botrytis Detection in Onion Seeds

Naktuinbouw implements a new laboratory test for *Botrytis* detection in onion seeds.

Botrytis is an important aspect to consider in the cultivation and storage of onions. Neck rot is the major disease and mainly occurs during onion storage. Naktuinbouw has implemented a test to detect *Botrytis* using 400 seeds per sample.

Fungi

Botrytis squamosa is the causal agent of *Botrytis* leaf blight in the field. Neck rot is being caused by *Botrytis allii* (synonym: *B. aclada*). Sclerotia in soil or waste and infected shallots or seed onions can be the primary source of infection.

Detection

Botrytis allii is a seed transmittable pathogen. Contamination of seeds can be detected by incubating the seeds on semi-selective media. Selectivity of the medium is crucial since other, non-pathogenic, fungi can mask the presence of *Botrytis*. ISHI (International Seed Health Initiative) has tested several semi-selective media to determine which medium is the most reliable to detect the presence of *Botrytis*. *Botrytis allii* can be detected best on a specific medium based on a plum extract.

More information?

For more information on fungal tests, please contact Irma Lukassen (Customer Relation Manager Naktuinbouw Laboratories), tel: +31 (0)64671 3109 or e-mail: i.lukassen@naktuinbouw.nl



Naktuinbouw Tag

12th PVP Course a Success

The Plant Variety Protection Course (PVP Course), organised by Naktuinbouw in collaboration with Wageningen International of Wageningen University, was given from 15 until 26 June in Wageningen.

This year 27 participants from 17 countries, representing four continents, attended the course. The course is aimed at facilitating the introduction and practical implementation of Plant Breeders' Rights in countries where legislation on this matter is being developed or has recently been passed.

Programme

A series of lectures, practical exercises, group assignments and excursions introduced the participants to all aspects of a PVP system: legal, institutional, technical aspects and the exploitation of PVP. Due to the widely diverse backgrounds of the participants, the poster session during which they introduced the existing or emerging PVP system of their

respective countries was very interesting – and educational for all. Mutually exchanging knowledge is an important aspect of the course for participants. They also actively took part in exercises where the group had to discuss and find solutions for a number of issues and problems.

UPOV Course

Registered participants were able to follow the UPOV Distant Learning Course free of charge. This course is a good preparation for the PVP Course. Most participants attended the UPOV Course and successfully completed it.

PVP Course in 2010

Due to its success, the 13th professional training course

will be organised again from 14 to 25 June 2010. Fellowships for this course are available from the Netherlands Fellowship Programme (NFP). NFP candidates must first apply to Wageningen International.

Information and application

More information can be found on www.cdic.wur.nl/UK/Courses and www.nuffic.nl

You can already apply to attend now via www.naktuinbouw.nl (Training Services).

For more information, please contact Naktuinbouw Training Services, tel. +31 (0)71 332 61 65, or e-mail:

trainingservices@naktuinbouw.nl



Participants visit the trial field of agricultural crops

Naktuinbouw Participates in Summer School Green Genetics

For the first time, Wageningen Business School organised a Summer School Green Genetics. The project consisted of a number of lectures about plant breeding and excursions to companies involved in this sector, including Naktuinbouw.



Explanation of DUS testing

Summer School was held on the Wageningen University Campus from 24 August to 28 August inclusive. Summer School is intended for 2nd year Academic Bachelor students and 3rd year Professional Bachelor students (Polytechnic) of biology, agronomy, laboratory techniques or related fields; national and international.

The aim of the Summer School is to introduce students at an early stage to the world of green genetics. This approach also offers students a way of extending their networks by making contacts in the business sector.

Contents

The students attended lectures about the theory behind plant breeding, technological developments in breeding and Plant Breeders' Rights. They were also introduced to the modern research facilities and laboratories. The students also visited companies including Barenbrug, Seminis, Keygene, Royal van Zanten and Naktuinbouw. The programme also included a visit to Seed Valley, including Enza Zaden and Inotec.

Summer School

Summer School Green Genetics is an initiative of Wageningen Business School and Wageningen UR Plant Breeding, both departments of Wageningen University and Research Center (WUR). Summer School was sponsored by Technological Top Institute Green Genetics (TTI) and the participating companies.

More information?

For more information, see the website of Wageningen Business School, www.wbs.wur.nl or send an e-mail to info.wbs@wur.nl. Another Summer School is expected to be planned for 2010.

laboratories and the Research & Development laboratory, the work can be carried out more efficiently and validating the assays will be easier. The new PCR machines will enable Naktuinbouw to conduct the existing assays reliably and to develop new assays.

More information?

For more information on molecular tests, please contact Irma Lukassen (Customer Relation Manager Naktuinbouw Laboratories), tel. +31 (0)16 46 71 31 09 or e-mail: i.lukassen@naktuinbouw.nl

Great Increase in PCR Assays

Naktuinbouw has been seeing a huge increase in the number and quality of PCR assays. To be able to cope with the rising demand, new PCR equipment has been acquired.



Results of Real Time PCR

Plant pathogens can be detected using various detection methods. PCR assays are increasingly being used to detect pathogens using the genetic code of the pathogen. Naktuinbouw is also going to apply this technology more frequently.

Developments

Since the early 1990s Naktuinbouw has used the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) to detect plant pathogens. The method is fast, sensitive and capable of detecting individual species. Viroids like PSTVd or CLVd can

only be detected using PCR methods. As more genetic information on plant pathogens becomes available, developing PCR assays is easier and faster. The increased use of PCR will make this method more cost effective. In recent years interest in quantitative or real-time PCR has been growing. This PCR variant is even more sensitive and also more specific than the standard PCR. The advantage is that multiple pathogens can be detected simultaneously and that the results are available at the end of the PCR reaction.

Expansion / replacement

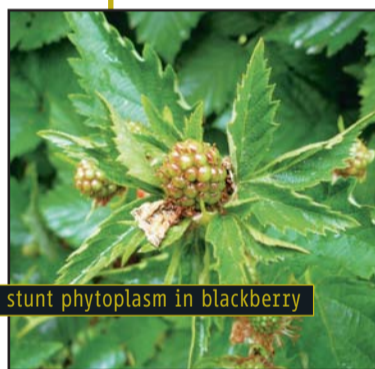
Universities and research institutes are developing more PCR and quantitative PCR assays for viroids, viruses, bacteria, fungi and other pathogens instead of serological assays. For this reason, Naktuinbouw has decided to expand the PCR technology. New PCR and quantitative PCR machines have been purchased to replace old machines and to allow the number of PCR assays to increase in the future. By standardising the machines at the routine

21st International Conference on Virus and other Graft Transmissible Diseases of Fruit Crops

Viruses and other graft transmissible diseases are a constant threat for fruit crops. These threats, viruses, and an overview of the scientific state were topics at the 21st 'International Conference on Virus and other Graft Transmissible Diseases of Fruit Crops'.



Symptoms of crumbly fruit in raspberry



Rubus stunt phytoplasma in blackberry

Viruses, phytoplasmas and viroids can seriously damage fruit crops. On an international level, many research groups study the pathogens that cause major diseases in fruit crops and their epidemiology. In early June, 170 scientists from around the world convened in Neustadt an der Weinstrasse (Germany) to discuss the latest results of their studies.

Participation

Colleagues from the Test Center Horst and Research & Development of Naktuinbouw Laboratories attended the conference. Ellis Meekes, scientist at Research & Development gave a presentation on the use of certification systems to increase the quality of propagating material. The use of well validated detection assays is a condition to guarantee disease free propagating material.

Latest developments

The conference gave an overview of the latest scientific developments:

- A number of specific diseases like crumbly fruit and blackcurrant reversion virus in small



Cherries (Regina) ready for harvest

fruit crops such as raspberry, strawberry, blackcurrant and blue currant were discussed.

- In America and Australia pallidosis is seen as a growing threat to strawberry cultivation. Pallidosis is caused by a number of criniviruses which can be transmitted by the greenhouse whitefly.
- Plum Pox Virus is an important disease that affects plums. As well as testing for the disease, resistance breeding is seen as an approach that can be taken to reduce the sensitivity to virus infection.
- Attention was also devoted to phytoplasmas, in particular apple witches' broom. Phytoplasmas are bacteria-like organisms without a cell wall that live and multiply in the phloem of the plant. Here too, resistance

breeding is seen as a way to reduce the impact of the disease. Work is also being carried into studying the spread of phytoplasmas by psyllids and into improving detection methods for phytoplasmas.

The 22nd conference will be held in Rome in 2012.

More information?

For more information, please contact Marcel Toonen (team manager Research & Development), tel. +31 (0)71 332 62 37 or e-mail: m.toonen@naktuinbouw.nl

Official Approval for PSTVd Test in Tomato Seeds

The protocol for a new PSTVd test in tomato seeds, developed by Naktuinbouw has been approved by the Dutch Plant Protection Service.

Due to increasing international demand for a reliable PSTVd test of seed, a new protocol has been developed by the Research & Development team of Naktuinbouw Laboratories. The protocol has been approved by the Dutch Plant Protection Service.

What is PSTVd?

Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid is a pathogen which affects tomatoes and potatoes. This pathogen has a quarantine status. For tomatoes it is not clear if the disease is practically transmitted through seed. In literature it has been described that the PSTVd can be transmitted through seed. However, grow out experiments at Naktuinbouw with Tomato chlorotic dwarf viroid (TCDVd), a viroid closely related to PSTVd, did not reveal any seed transmission in an



experiment using 4,000 seeds. Viroids like PSTVd can be transmitted mechanically. Ornamental crops such as *Brugmansia* spp. and *Solanum jasminoides* that are infected, but do not show symptoms, may act as source of infection.

Test

Recently Naktuinbouw developed a molecular test for the simultaneous detection of PSTVd and

TCDVd, based on TCDVd infected seeds. As no PSTVd infected seeds were available at that time, the test could not be validated for PSTVd.

In collaboration with the Dutch Plant Protection Service (NPPO), PSTVd contaminated seeds were produced, and these seeds were used to validate the test for PSTVd. The test analyses a sample of 3,000 seeds for the presence of PSTVd and TCDVd.

More information?

For more information on the PSTVd/TCDVd test, please contact Irma Lukassen (Customer Relation Manager Laboratories), tel. +31 (0)6 46 71 31 09 or i.lukassen@naktuinbouw.nl



Indonesia Update Plant Breeders' Rights

Users find the methods and procedures of the Plant Breeders' Rights system in Indonesia very transparent and open, according to a survey carried out among applicants submitting new varieties.

Naktuinbouw has been carrying out a Plant Breeders' Rights project in Indonesia since January 2008, funded by the Dutch Agency for International Business and Cooperation (EVD) and the Indonesian government. The project is aimed at strengthening the, still infant, PBR-system in Indonesia.

Progress

In 2008 the methods and procedures were scrutinised with



the aim of streamlining them. The conclusion of a survey conducted among applicants submitting varieties about their experiences with the Plant Variety Protection system was that the system is very open and transparent. Ten Indonesian DUS researchers were also trained in the Netherlands for the crop groups trees, vegetables, agriculture, plantation crops and ornamental crops. In 2009 these ten researchers trained co-researchers at various research institutes and companies under Naktuinbouw's supervision ('train the trainer'). A researcher in fruit crops from the German Federal Plant Variety Office and Japanese researchers specialised in rice crops also participated in the project. Training sessions were held at five trial stations, with

crops planted in the fields, so that the researchers could gain practical experience with living plant material.

Follow up project

In October a delegation of Indonesian policy officials from the Ministry of Agriculture will be visiting the Netherlands. The theme of the visit is the development of the seed and planting material industry in Indonesia, for which a strategy still has to be developed. The delegation will visit Plantum NL and the Horti Fair. During this visit the Dutch and European Plant Breeders' Rights system will be presented. In November a major symposium is scheduled with place for around 400 participants, with a parallel trade fair. During the conference the effects of a



sound Plant Breeders' Rights system on the development of the seed and planting material industry will be presented. In January 2010 a closing symposium will be held during which the results of the project will be presented and the plans for the future will be outlined.

Conclusion

The conclusion of the trainers is that work on DUS testing in Indonesia is being taken very seriously and that the Indonesian employees involved showed high level of commitment to, and good knowledge of, DUS related activities.

More information?

For more information about the project, please contact Peter Lentjes, tel. +31 (0)71 332 61 36 p.lentjes@naktuinbouw.nl

ISTA Applicant

The Indonesian government is interested in starting an Indonesian ISTA laboratory in Jakarta. Together with Plant Research International Wageningen, Naktuinbouw is assisting the Indonesian partners.



Mr. N. Laksana Ran, Mrs. K. van Ettinger, D. Daryono & Y. Yusuf

The first training session, so called 'train the trainer', was held in the BPMB laboratory in Jakarta in November 2008. This summer it was time to show the Indonesian representatives all the aspects of how a Dutch ISTA laboratory works and the extra tasks.

Visit

Two people from the Directorate of Agriculture from Indonesia, as well as a representative of the laboratory that will apply for ISTA accreditation, were invited for the visit. During the visit the main focus was on the seed analysis laboratory, quality management and ISTA accreditation. In addition, various people from Naktuinbouw explained about inspections, Plant Breeders' Rights, NAL and the registration of new varieties.

Seed companies

To complete the picture of the Dutch system, the group visited one of the biggest seed companies (with NAL accreditation) and a plant grower. Thanks to all this information, the delegates were inspired with ideas and plans for the future of Indonesia. The Directorate of Agriculture left the Netherlands with new impulses and ideas for better regulations and improvements on the already existing system of seed trading in their country.

Next training

The laboratory in Jakarta is very busy on working to complete their quality system so they can apply for ISTA accreditation. In November this year – during this project's next training session – they will train more trainers from different islands for the final course that will be given in 2010. The project (2008 until 2010) is financed by the Dutch EVD and the Indonesian government.

Internship at Varieties & Trials

This summer Naktuinbouw welcomed two guest employees from the Czech Republic and expects another internee this year from Brazil.

These temporary colleagues are employed at Naktuinbouw for a period ranging from 2 to 10 weeks. They are assigned to their own task which they work on independently.

Programme

The various aspects of the DUS activities are examined, allowing the international colleagues to exchange knowledge and experiences with the team at Naktuinbouw.

The activities performed by the guests during their internship depend on the actual season. The guests also visit companies. The programme also devotes time to Dutch culture, the country itself, and includes visits to interesting cities.

Application

If you are interested in working as one of our temporary colleagues, please contact us. We expect our temporary

colleague to be enthusiastic about the work, open minded, flexible, curious, willing to do practical work, and to speak English fluently. We expect the employer of our temporary colleague to continue to pay the normal wages, travel costs to and from the Netherlands and health insurance and other insurance. Naktuinbouw expects the employer to bear all liability for its employee and that the trainee is here at his

or her own risk. Depending on the country of origin, a temporary work permit and/or residence permit is necessary. Naktuinbouw can provide assistance in obtaining such documents, but it is the responsibility of the candidates to obtain the documents.

More information?

Please contact Kees van Etekoven, tel. +31 (0)71 332 61 28 or e-mail: c.v.ettekoven@naktuinbouw.nl



Mrs. Věra Řičicová



Mrs. Andrea Povolná and Mr. Kees van Etekoven (Naktuinbouw)

House of Varieties & House of Technology at Horti Fair 2009

Naktuinbouw will be exhibiting in a joint variety pavilion with the CPVO (Community Plant Variety Office) and the VKC (Permanent Judging Committee) and showing the latest developments in the House of Technology.

House of Varieties

In the 'House of Varieties' stand Naktuinbouw will be showing Plant Breeders' Rights testing together with the CPVO. The various varieties assessed by Naktuinbouw during testing for DUS criteria (Distinctness, Uniformity, Stability) will be displayed on tables. In the same stand, VKC will be showing visitors its activities; including registration and photography.

House of Technology

This pavilion is a platform for debate and discussion. Naktuinbouw will be participating in the discussion on: *'With the current chain structure in greenhouse horticulture, quarantine diseases, such as Clavibacter, are difficult to control!'* All interested parties are invited to take part in this high profile debate and to visit the House of Technology, where Naktuinbouw will be

showing the latest developments in forensic testing – at DNA level – in horticulture.

Horti Fair

Horti Fair is taking place from 13 to 16 October inclusive in the RAI complex in Amsterdam. Opening hours are from 10.00 hrs to 19.00 hrs. The theme of the show is *'For a sustainable future'*. The House of Varieties is in the Amstelhal, stand number 07.0710. The House of Technology is in the Oosthal, stand number 04.0232.

More information?

For more information visit www.hortifair.nl. Free admission tickets are available from various trade journals or can be requested from Naktuinbouw, tel. +31 (0)71 332 61 65 or email: info@naktuinbouw.nl



Horti Fair (2008)

Naktuinbouw Dedicated to Quality

This spring, some ten years after the merger between NAKB and NAKG created Naktuinbouw, the opening of the new accommodation was taken by Naktuinbouw as an opportunity to publish a book. The English version will be published early 2010.

The book documents the past and reflects on the role played by Naktuinbouw and its predecessors through the years. The present situation and the future are also given attention in this volume.

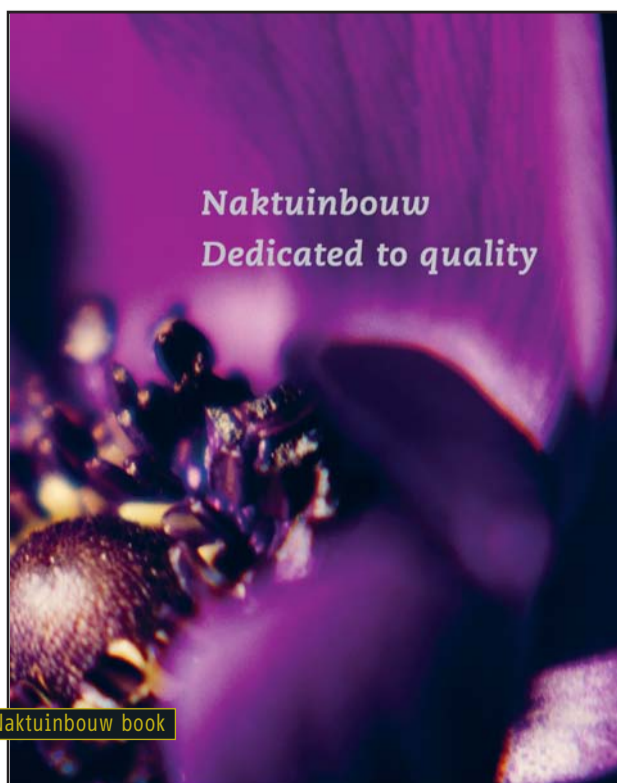
Contents

The book chronicles the development process from inspection service to the current, independent administrative body that acts as an instrument of the government and the business community. From inspection service to expertise center.

The book illustrates, explains, and describes the importance of the variety, quality and health of propagating material.

How to order

If you would like to receive a copy (free of charge) of 'Naktuinbouw Dedicated to quality' when it is published early 2010, please send an e-mail to communicatie@naktuinbouw.nl stating your address details. You will be sent a copy as soon as the book has been published.



Cover of the soon to be published Naktuinbouw book

Accreditation Programme Hygiene Tomato

The accreditation programme, known under the working title 'Clean Seeds Clean Plants', will probably start from January 2010. Preparations are underway and on schedule.



An inspection in the greenhouse

A foundation, which will be responsible for the logo/brand and the hygiene system protocols, will be set up by industry organisations.

Cooperation

SOC (France) and Naktuinbouw (the Netherlands) will be the responsible auditing organisations. These two official bodies will cooperate closely in conducting the world wide audits. Specialised auditors are available at both organisations.

Decisions

The final decisions about checklists, norm interpretations, documents and tariffs for participation and auditing are expected to be taken in the period October/November 2009.

More information?

For more information, please contact Plantum NL, Jaap den Dekker, j.dendekker@plantum.nl or Naktuinbouw, Co Bruin, tel. +31 (0)71 332 61 35, or c.bruin@naktuinbouw.nl

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