



# GrowingMedia2021 – International Symposium on Growing Media, Soilless Cultivation, and Compost Utilization in Horticulture

22-27 August 2021

ILVO - Flanders Research Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and online  
Caritasstraat 39, 9090 Melle, Belgium

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## PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

### Sunday, August 22 – Stadshal and Goudenleeuwplein 3, Ghent

CEST

14:00 - 16:00

Hospitality Tour (departure at Stadshal, Poeljemarkt, Ghent)

16:00 - 18:00

Welcome reception (Goudenleeuwplein 3, Ghent)

### Monday, August 23 – ILVO

CEST

08:00 – 09:00

Registration desk open

09:00 - 09:30

Opening (Bart Vandecasteele and representative of ISHS)

09:30 - 10:15

*Keynote: C. Blok. Recirculation, circular fertilizers and resilience: the potential of growing media systems for circular production*

10:15 - 11:00

Coffee break

11:00 - 12:15

Session 1: Growing media and sustainable use of resources

12:15 - 13:15

Group photo + Lunch break

13:15 - 13:45

Poster pitches n° 1-10

13:45 - 14:30

*Keynote: D. Neher. Biological indicators and compost for managing plant disease*

14:30 - 15:30

Session 2: The microbiome of growing media and integrated disease and pest control

15:30 - 16:00

Coffee break

16:00 - 17:00

Nomenclature workshop

18:30 - 20:00

Belgian drinks and foods reception in Ghent (STAMCafé, Godshuizenlaan 2, Ghent)

### Tuesday, August 24 – PCS (Schaessestraat 18, Destelbergen) and ILVO

CEST

08:30 - 12:30

Technical tours (PCS Ornamental Plant Research and ILVO)

12:30 - 13:30

Lunch at ILVO

13:30 - 14:15

*Keynote: M. Pugliese. Use of compost in nursery as pre-planting substrate to control soil-borne pathogens on vegetable crops in field conditions*

14:15 - 14:45

Session 2: The microbiome of growing media and integrated disease and pest control

14:45 - 15:15

Session 3: Soilless cultivation: added value of innovations for water and nutrient use efficiency

15:15 - 15:45

Coffee break

15:45 - 17:00

Session 3: Soilless cultivation: added value of innovations for water and nutrient use efficiency

17:00 - 18:00

Poster session in Gather.town

18:00 - 21:00

Diner@Greenhouse at ILVO (Melle)





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## Wednesday, August 25 – ILVO

CEST

- 08:30 - 09:15      *Keynote: E. Graber. Mysteries and musings at the biochar/plant/stress/growing media interface*
- 09:15 - 10:15      Session 3: Soilless cultivation: added value of innovations for water and nutrient use efficiency
- 10:15 - 11:00      Coffee break
- 11:00 - 12:15      Session 4: Biochar and compost in horticulture and carbon storage potential
- 12:15 - 13:15      Lunch break
- 13:15 - 13:45      Poster pitches n° 11-20
- 13:45 - 15:00      Horti-BlueC open event (Interreg 2 Seas)
- 15:00 - 15:30      Coffee break
- 15:30 - 16:30      Horti-BlueC open event (Interreg 2 Seas)
- 16:30 - 17:15      ISHS Business Meeting  
*Free evening*

## Thursday, August 26, “Industry and Policy Day” – ILVO

CEST

- 08:30 - 09:15      *Keynote: M. Sánchez-Monedero. Biochar as an additive in composting: Impact on process performance and on the agronomical quality of the end product*
- 09:15 - 10:15      Session 1 : Growing media and sustainable use of resources
- 10:15 - 11:00      Coffee break
- 11:00 - 12:15      Peat-related workshop by the International Peatland Society
- 12:15 - 13:15      Lunch break
- 13:15 - 13:45      Poster pitches n° 21-31
- 13:45 - 15:15      Policy-related workshop by the European Compost Network and Growing Media Europe. 'EU Fertilising Products Regulation – Opportunities and Challenges to place Growing Media and Soil Improvers on the European Market'
- 15:15 - 15:30      Coffee break
- 15:30 - 16:15      Session 1 : Growing media and sustainable use of resources
- 16:15 - 17:00      Final summary & conclusions and award ceremony



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## Friday, August 27 – On location and ILVO

CEST

10:30 - 12:00

VLACO/ECN post-symposium tour at IVAREM green composting site  
Location: Mechelsesteenweg 285, 2500 Lier

OR

09:00 - 12:00

Next-Generation Sequencing Workshop “From species to digits: a workshop to analyze microbial communities in growing media and plants”  
(Caroline De Tender and Lisa Joos, ILVO/Ghent University)  
Location: ILVO Auditorium

