

Interreg 2 Seas Mers Zeeën Horti-BlueC



European Regional Development Fund



The Flanders Research Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food(ILVO, Belgium) performspolicy-supporting scientific research for a sustainable agriculture and fishery in a economic, ecological and social perspective. ILVO is part of the Flemish Government's Agriculture and Fisheries Policy Area. ILVO has more than 75 years of fundamental and applied research experience, and is equipped with large infrastructure, including 200 ha experimental fields, many (accredited) analysis and detection labs, and a pilot food processing plant.

ILVO has relevant expertise on:

- valorization of by-products of agriculture, horticulture & fisheries based on methodologically innovative research.
- the selection of materials and dedicated pretreatment of compost and plant fibers for use in sustainable growing media as a strategy for Circular Horticulture.
- the interaction of biochar, compost and plant fibers with nutrients and biological properties of growing media.
- disease suppressive growing mediaas an Integrated Pest Management strategy.

ILVO is involved in this project by investigating the added value in sustainable growing mediaof plant fibers, compost, biochar and chitin based on renewable resources, with a special focus on the interaction with nutrient use efficiency and disease suppression. The project offers ILVO the possibility to jointly performresearch on recycling marine and agronomic wasteand developing sustainable growing media, being a key topic in circular horticulture























