



Lighting in greenhouses and vertical farms

Course: Lighting in greenhouses
and vertical farms

9-11 April 2025

Wageningen, The Netherlands



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Do you want to improve the use of LED lighting in greenhouse production or vertical farming? Would you like to know how to reduce energy use and carbon foot print, how to improve production, or how to improve quality? Do you want to understand the different characteristics of light and how they affect physiological plant processes? Then this course might be valuable for you.

Wageningen University and Research centre is the “knowledge heart” of the Dutch Greenhouse Horticulture, which is the most advanced and productive in the world. In this course on lighting in greenhouses and vertical farms Wageningen UR scientists will share their unique knowledge with international students, researchers, and horticultural and light experts. The course will be held in Wageningen, The Netherlands.



Course objectives

The aim of this course is to learn the basic principles behind the effects of LED lighting on plant growth, yield, product quality, and energy use efficiency.

It aims that participants also understand how to apply this information in their daily practice by developing strategies to optimize the use of lighting in relation to the whole production system.

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Learning outcomes

This course gives participants an in-depth view on:

- Perception of light by plants
- Major plant physiological and morphological processes affected by light
- How lighting can be used effectively in greenhouses and vertical farms
- The different characteristics of light and how to measure.

The course consists of a mixture of interactive classroom lectures, group discussions, demonstrations, and an excursion day.

The lectures will be given by a team of experts of Wageningen UR.



For whom?

This excellent and intensive course is meant for professionals in lighting, greenhouse production and vertical farms as well as MSc and PhD students, post-docs and junior scientists from all over the world.

Practical Information

Course fee: € 1010 early bird until 15 February 2025, thereafter € 1070 per person including hand-out material, coffee/tea, lunches, excursion and one dinner.

Dates: 9-11 April 2025

Registration until: 15 March 2025 (early bird until 15 February 2025)

Course Registration

Please fill in the form on

<https://forms.office.com/e/FSDKkmv7Tt>

or use the QR code



Contact

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Venue of the course on 9 and 11 April

Omnia building at WUR Campus, Hoge Steeg 2, Wageningen



Programme

DAY 1: Wednesday 9 April

9.00 General introduction to light in horticulture (*Prof Leo Marcelis*)

- Key aspects of production in greenhouses and vertical farms and role of light

9.45 Vertical farming (*Prof Leo Marcelis*)

- Possibilities
- Bottle necks

10.30 Break

11.00 Measurement of light (*Prof Leo Marcelis*)

- What, where, and how to measure

12.30 Group photo

12.35 Lunch

13.30 Climate control and energy (*Dr David Katzin*)

- Light in relation to climate and vice versa
- Energy use efficiency

15.00 Break

15.30 Light use efficiency of crops under LED Light (*Dr Ep Heuvelink*)

- How much can a plant produce per unit of light
- Analysis of components of plant yield

17.00 Closure

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Programme

DAY 2: Thursday 10 April

Excursion

- Whole day excursion to modern companies growing plants in vertical farm and greenhouses with LED lighting

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Programme

DAY 3: Friday 11 April

9.00 Physiology (*Prof Leo Marcelis*)

- Photosynthesis
- Photomorphogenesis
- Photoreceptors

10.30 Break

11.00 LED in (semi-)practice

- Design of LED based greenhouse cultivation
- Experiences and lessons learned

12.30 Lunch

13.30 Excursion (*Prof Leo Marcelis*)

- Visit and discuss latest experiments of Wageningen University on LED lighting

15.00 Break

15.30 Case studies from participants (*Prof Leo Marcelis*)

- Up to one week before the course participants can send in a question or a case study. Here we will discuss some selected case studies

16.15 Control of product quality by light (*Prof Ernst Woltering*)

- Appearance of plant products
- Shelf life
- Taste
- Health promoting compounds (vitamin C, anthocyanins, etc.)

17.00 Ceremony with certificates and drinks & bites

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Lecturers



Prof Leo Marcelis



Dr David Katzin



Dr Ep Heuvelink



Prof Ernst Woltering

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