VertiFarm 2019

International workshop on vertical farming
13-15 October 2019
Wageningen, The Netherlands
The world population is rapidly growing from about 7 today to 9.5 billion people in 2050 and eating habits are changing. The demand for high quality fresh vegetables that are safe, healthy, tasty, and sustainably produced within or near urban areas is strongly increasing. This requires a new vision on food production and distribution. Vertical farming offers a new route that could fit future urban food systems. Vertical farming is a rapidly developing technology where plants are grown under fully controlled conditions in buildings in many stacked layers without solar light. Other terms used for this type of vertical farms are city farms, indoor farms, or plant factory with artificial light (PFAL). Vertical farming is a next level production system, which allows production of plants at any place including the most urbanised regions of the world. The use of LED light and the full control of both the aboveground and belowground conditions in combination with the right cultivar, enables growers to produce products with extra added value, which appeal to the demand of consumers for safe, reliable, and tasty, nutritious food.
The Workshop

It is now time for the first international workshop on Vertical Farming, organised under the auspices of the International Society for Horticultural Science. The workshop combines a number of oral presentations of world leading horticultural researchers, panel discussions with renowned companies, short oral and poster presentations on the latest research results on vertical farming. The workshop welcomes scientific presentations on all aspects of vertical farming, ranging from plant physiology, breeding, climate control, engineering, systems design, urban planning, economics, consumer demands and business development. Although at this moment vertical farming largely deals with vegetables, there are also opportunities for production of ornamental (young) plants. Therefore, the workshop also welcomes presentations on ornamentals in vertical farms. You are most welcome to attend the workshop from 13 to 15 October on the Campus of Wageningen University the Netherlands. If you want to be sure to have a place at the workshop, register now.
Keynote speakers

Eri Hayashi, Japan Plant Factory Association (Japan)
Global R&D and business trends of plant factories toward inclusive and sustainable societies

Murat Kacira, University of Arizona (USA):
Climate control

Luuk Graamans, Wageningen UR & TU Delft (the Netherlands)
Greenhouses or vertical farms? Future perspectives for cities in the light of resource use efficiency

Erik Runkle, Michigan State University (USA)
Spectral manipulations to elicit desired plant quality attributes

Qichang Yang, CAAS, Institute for urban agriculture (China)
Current status of vertical farming and its development of energy saving technologies in China

Bruce Bugbee, Utah State University (USA)
Turning photons into food: Modelling the potential of indoor agriculture

Marie-Christine Van Labeke, Ghent University (Belgium)
Multilayer production of ornamentals: light on young plants

Danny Geelen, Ghent University (Belgium)
Plant health in a controlled environment and the impact of organic nutrition

Emiel Wubben, Wageningen UR (the Netherlands)
Vertical Farming: Where is the business? A study into its business types and business models

Francesco Orsini, Bologna University (Italy)
Sustainable use of resources in indoor farms with artificial lighting

Invited speakers

Dorthe Larsen, Wageningen UR (the Netherlands)
Improving quality and secondary metabolite content in basil with LED light

Qianxixi Min, Wageningen UR (the Netherlands)
Producing lettuce with longer shelf life by short-term pre-harvest lighting

Sharath Kumar Malleshaiah, Wageningen UR (the Netherlands):
Control of flowering in vertical farms: case study on Chrysanthemum

Wenqing Jin, Wageningen UR (the Netherlands)
Effects of farred light on growth and development of lettuce

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Speakers from companies during panel discussions

- Ed Harwood, Aerofarms, USA
- Katsuki Kai, 808Factory, Japan
- David Proenza, Urban Farms Global, Panama
- Pavlos Kalaitzoglou, Infarm, Germany
- John Bijl, OwnGreens & VitroPlus, The Netherlands
- Celine Nicole, Philips lighting (Signify), The Netherlands
- Ali Ahmadian, Heliospectra, Sweden
- Timo Bongartz, Fluence Bioengineering/Osram, Germany
- Jan Westra, Priva, The Netherlands
- Pim Molenaars, Rockwool Grodan, The Netherlands
- Certhon, The Netherlands
- Jan van den Berg, Basf, (Nunhems), The Netherlands

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Poster Presentations
There is ample time for poster presentations and discussions. Poster presenters can apply for presenting also a poster pitch (3 minutes oral talk). Titles for poster pitches must be submitted before 1 July (no abstract needed) Notification of poster acceptance will be 15 July. Postersize: A0 format, portrait

Sponsoring
There are several options for sponsoring, including small booths.

Practical Information
Info on accommodation and travel can be found at www.wur.eu/vertifarm2019

Registration and further information
For registration, sponsorship and further information see the website of the workshop: www.wur.eu/vertifarm2019

Contact
Questions about registration:
Niek Botden,
Niek.Botden@hortilink.nl
All other questions (programme, sponsorship):
Leo Marcelis,
Leo.Marcelis@wur.nl

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The fee for Non-ISHS members includes the fee for a one year membership of ISHS (International Society for Horticultural Science; www.ishs.org). Hence you can benefit for one year from ISHS membership.

The registration fee includes the welcome reception, coffee/tea, lunches, bites & drinks.

Registration closes 6 October.

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Programme

Sunday 13 October

Location: WICC, Lawickse Allee 9, Wageningen

5.00-8.00 PM Registration

6.00-9.00 PM Welcome reception
Programme

Monday 14 October
Location: Orion, Bronland 1, Wageningen

8.00 Registration, mounting posters
9.00 Opening (Leo Marcelis, Murat Kacira, Francesco Orsini)
9.10 Eri Hayashi
   Global R&D and business trends of plant factories toward inclusive and sustainable societies
9.45 Murat Kacira
   Climate control
10.20 Break
10.50 Luuk Graamans
   Greenhouses or vertical farms? Future perspectives for cities in the light of resource use efficiency
11.25 Panel Discussion with companies (Aerofarms, 808Factory, Urban Farms Global)
11.55 Poster pitches (parallel sessions)
12.30 Lunch
13.30 Poster presentations
13.30 What is necessary to take vertical farming to the next level?
   interactive session organised by Association for Vertical farming
14.30 Dorthe Larsen
   Improving quality and secondary metabolite content in basil with LED light
14.50 Wenqing Jin
   Effects of farred light on growth and development of lettuce
15.10 Danny Geelen
   Plant health in a controlled environment and the impact of organic nutrition
15.45 Break
16.15 Francesco Orsini
   Sustainable use of resources in indoor farms with artificial lighting
16.50 Panel Discussion with companies (Priva, Grodan, Certhon)
17.20 Closure

VertiFarm2019: Workshop on vertical farming
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Programme

Tuesday 15 October
Location: Orion, Bronland 1, Wageningen

9.00 Qichang Yang
   Current status of vertical farming and its development of energy saving technologies in China
9.35 Erik Runkle
   Spectral manipulations to elicit desired plant quality attributes
10.40 Bruce Bugbee
   Turning photons into food: Modelling the potential of indoor agriculture
11.15 Panel Discussion with companies (Own Greens, Infarm, Basf)

11.45 Poster pitches (parallel sessions)

12.20 Lunch

13.20 Poster presentations
13.20 Successful business models for vertical farming
   interactive session organised by Gus van der Feltz, the Farm Tech Society

14.20 Qianxixi Min
   Producing lettuce with longer shelf life by short-term pre-harvest lighting
14.40 Sharath Kumar Malleshaiah
   Control of flowering in vertical farms: case study on Chrysanthemum
15.00 Marie-Christine Van Labeke
   Multilayer production of ornamentals: light on young plants
15.35 Break
16.15 Emiel Wubben
   Vertical Farming: Where is the business? A study into its business types and business models
16.40 Panel Discussion with lighting companies (Philips, Fluence, Heliospectra)

17.10 Drinks & Bites

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Wageningen, The Netherlands
Convenors

Prof Dr Leo Marcelis  
www.hpp.wur.nl

Prof Dr Murat Kacira  
http://ceac.arizona.edu/

Dr Francesco Orsini  
https://site.unibo.it/rescue-ab/en

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Kick-off Urban Greenhouse Challenge’2

VertiFarm 2019 hosts the opening event of the second edition of the Urban Greenhouse Challenge, a cutting-edge, international student competition.

Multidisciplinary student teams are challenged to bring professional food production (back) into urban neighbourhoods integrating social, economic, environmental and technical aspects in one coherent concept. In the second edition of the Challenge they need to design an iconic and circular urban greenhouse for an exciting location in the Greater Bay Area in China. The design has to (1) produce safe and healthy food for the local neighbourhood and commercial markets, and (2) stimulate a healthy lifestyle and interactions with city dwellers.

The opening event will feature a speaker on the topic of urban farming (to be announced) as well as words of welcome from the organizers and a moment to look back at the first edition.

Visit the UCG’2-website for more information: https://urbangreenhousechallenge.nl/

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Wageningen, The Netherlands
Venue of the workshop

Orion
Bronland 1 (Building 103)
Wageningen Campus
Wageningen
The Netherlands
https://www.wur.nl/nl/locatie/Orion-building-number-103.htm

Location for Welcome reception (Sunday) and Dinner (Monday)

WICC
Lawickse Allee 9
Wageningen
The Netherlands
www.wicc.nl

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