Innovations from the Dutch Organic sector
Initiatives for the near future

Special workshop BIOFACH – Thursday, 13 February, 13.30 – 15.00, Room Tokio

On behalf of the Dutch ministry of Agriculture and Bionext we invite you to a special event on the BIOFACH 2020. Bionext presents in cooperation with representatives of the Dutch organic sector the most innovative developments in the Netherlands.

Program:

1. 13.30-13.40 Introduction new Circular Farming Policy in NL and ambitions of organic sector
   Michäel Wilde – Director Bionext
2. 13.40-13.55 Case 1: Agro-ecology + technology, the basis for a regenerative, productive and resilient agriculture
   Wijnand Sukkel – WUR scientist
3. 13.55-14.10 Case 2: Farming with nature
   Annette Harberink – Organic farmer
4. 14.10-14.20 Case 3: Soil, soy and the power of connected chains
   Jan Groen – GreenOrganics
5. 14.20-14.35 Case 4: Organic seeds & 100% phytophthora resistant organic potatoes in 2020
   Lizelore Vos – Organic farmer
6. 14.35-14.50 Case 5: True and fair pricing instruments
   Michel Scholte – True price foundation
7. 14.50-15.10 Questions and debate
   Moderator: Bavo van den Idsert - Bionext
Introduction Circular Farming Policy in NL and ambitions of organic sector
by Michaël Wilde – Bionext

In order to achieve the ambitious European Commission Green Deal objectives regarding climate, biodiversity and food quality the EC is focusing specifically on organic farming. This will have a huge impact on the European organic sector and particularly in The Netherlands where on the one hand we have a long way to go and on the other hand are known for the Dutch Diamond Approach (close cooperation between business, ngo, research and public affairs).

Agro-ecology + technology, the basis for a regenerative, productive and resilient agriculture
by Wijnand Sukkel – Wageningen University Research

The standard crop production system in western agriculture is a monoculture. Major reasons for the use of monocultures are its labour efficiency and market demands for product uniformity. However there is a great deal of scientific evidence that spatial crop diversity like for example mixed cropping, strip cropping and agroforestry, outperform monocultures in biodiversity, resilience, resource use efficiency and even productivity. A key challenge for the adoption of crop diversity is to develop the technology to strongly improve the labour efficiency of the diverse cropping systems.

Farming with nature
by Annette Harberink – Organic farmer

How do you manage nature and water when a river streams through your pasture? In the river delta of the Netherlands this is a most actual question. Annette Harberink, bio-dynamic farmer, is a pioneer in combining the preservation of nature and the organic production at a river.

Soil, soy and the power of connected chains
by Jan Groen – GreenOrganics

There is a need and an emerging market to produce high quality food proteins of vegetal origin, like soy. Soy has added value for the soil fertility in a diversified crop rotation and the market for vegetal proteins will enlarge the coming decade substantial. Entrepreneur Jan Groen motivated a group of Dutch farmers to start close cooperation in the production of soy for food consumption. What are the does and don’ts to start new value chains in organic.

Organic seeds & 100% phytophthora resistant organic potatoes in 2020
by Lizelore Vos – Organic farmer

When does pioneering start and where can it lead to? The parents of Lizelore Vos started many years ago with the selection of robust potato varieties that have become resistant against phytophthora. They worked together in the Louis Bolk and WUR research program Bio-impuls of prof Edith Lammerts van Bueren. This year all potato varieties for consumption in The Netherlands are robust varieties that can resist phytophthora and make an end to the use copper. A revolution!

True and fair pricing instruments
by Michel Scholte – True price foundation

The obstacle for integration of external costs into cost-efficient food production is the consequence for the product-price. The result is loss of biodiversity, soil fertility, climate change and poor social outcome for the people in the fields. Wageningen University Research, True Price Foundation and Bionext are creating with many partners a true cost evaluation tool that shows
added values of inclusive production in Euro’s. And the way to realize true prices are connected chains that are willing to pay fair prices. Michel Scholte will present some cases from practice.