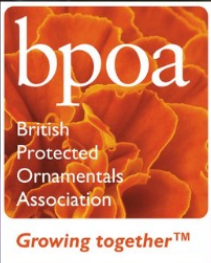


3rd February 2022

British Protected Ornamentals Association brings you:

GROWING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



WELCOME TO THE

BPOA TECHNICAL CONFERENCE 2022!

We are very pleased to welcome you back to the British Protected Ornamentals Association Technical Conference.

We aim to provide an event that allows for better understanding of the challenges faced in the sector and new ways of working towards a brighter and more successful future within the industry.

Thank you to all of our sponsors and speakers for their generous contributions towards the conference.

We hope that you enjoy the event.

BASIS points have been awarded for the conference, the details that you provided at registration will be automatically registered for points.

If you would like to find out more about the British Protected Ornamentals Association and our membership please email info@homegrownplants.org

SPONSORS

Bulrush Horticulture is one of the UK's leading suppliers of high-quality substrates to professional and amateur growers.

Based in Northern Ireland, Bulrush is a wholly owned subsidiary of Pindstrup Mosebrug A/S -one of the world's premier producers of substrates.

At the forefront of substrate technology and innovation, Bulrush supply superior quality peat-free, peat-reduced or peat-based products that consistently help our customers grow.

Please see our website for more information or contact us to help to see how we can help you.



BULRUSH

We are Priva. We create an optimal environment in which people and plants experience the best way to grow, using leading-edge technology, products and knowledge. We are proud that our solutions result in lower use of natural resources like energy and water.

Our portfolio of products and services for the Horticulture sector include: process computers, water systems and management solutions.

Cloud connectivity and digital services are a new era in convenience, ease of use and the power of data at your fingertips to ensure you make the right decisions for a more profitable crop. Contact Kathryn.smethurst@priva.com about our latest sales actions on offer for the BPOA to help you get to the next level. Get Connected – grow your business.



SPONSORS

Today's world, and even more; tomorrow's world, is demanding new production methods and innovative recycling. Under our motto; "We Care About Your Plants & Our Planet",

Desch Plantpak are continually extending our range of products for professional horticulture - with products which respect the environment. Desch Plantpak manufacture products that are made from recycled plastic and, in turn, are fully recyclable. We introduced the Recover brand in 2019 and then D-Tect Plus the following year. Cyclo-HTP has certified both. They can be detected by near-infrared technology, so they can be separated from other waste during processing, and be recycled into new plastic products. Both brands can be manufactured in a wide range of colours and Desch is extending this sustainability standard to other products such as marketing trays and bedding packs.



Beekenkamp are a breeder and seed and cutting raised young plant producer bedding, pot plants and hobby vegetables for the professional grower.



SPONSORS

As growing media specialists we are at the forefront of innovation and performance. Our comprehensive range has everything you need to grow, whether you are looking for peat reduced or peat free growing media. We also produce specialist mixes to your exact specifications, incorporating additives, plant protection products and fertilisers. All growing media can be supplied in bags, big bales, IBC's or loose bulk. Our product range included perlite, vermiculite and hydroleca. We also offer a superb choice of fertilisers, including controlled release and water soluble, Sincron+ top dressing and pot topper.



Syngenta Professional Solutions is a fully dedicated, global ornamental controls business passionately committed to working with growers and industry partners around the world. We are proud to have a leading, global portfolio of high-quality products that can be tailored together with our local experts to create simpler, more profitable, more responsible ornamental growing solutions. At Syngenta UK, we work with you to make sure every plant achieves its full potential. The impact of pests or diseases on your crop can be huge, it is at this point our expertise becomes an essential and critical component for success. Syngenta UK has both the commercial experience from working with growers and implementing innovative research and development projects. This involves a combination of chemical, biological and technical service to provide integrated control solutions.



ORDER OF PLAY

9:30 - 11:15	Morning Session Chaired by Derek Jarman
9:35-9:55	A Sustainability Journey - Susannah Ball, Ball Horticultural Company
9:55-10:20	Carbon implications of plastic & the alternatives available—Phil Griffiths, Desch Plantpak
10:20-10:45	The energy rollercoaster of 2021—Jon Swain, NFU Energy
10:45-11:05	Refreshment Break
11:05- 12:35	Mid-Morning Session Chaired by Chris Need
11:10-11:30	Peat policy in England—Judith Stuart, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
11:30-12:00	New ingredients in growing media: how to take advantage of more microbial biomass and activity—Bart Vandecasteele, Flanders Research Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (ILVO)
12:00-12:25	Developments in Plant Health—Derek McCann, Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA)
12:25-12:35	BPOA: The Future—Derek Jarman, BPOA Chairman

ORDER OF PLAY

12:35-13:15	Refreshment Break
13:15-15:00	Afternoon Session Chaired by Robin Squance
13:20-13:45	The Robots are coming!- David May, Lincoln Institute for Agri-Food Technology
13:45-14:10	The potential for data analytics and machine learning in horticultural crop protection programmes —Ant Surrage, Fargro
14:10-14:25	The Autonomous Greenhouse Challenge – Max van den Hemel, Delphy
14:25 -14:35	Making the BPOA more accessible—Robin Squance, BPOA Technical Chair
14:35-14:40	Closing Remarks—Derek Jarman, BPOA Chairman
14:40	Conference Close

SPEAKERS

Ant Surrage



Ant is a specialist in innovative crop protection solutions ranging from biopesticides to data driven integrated pest management (IPM) programmes. Working with growers to develop confidence in biological controls, biopesticide and optimise their IPM programme via data driven decision making allowing for environmental sensitivities (e.g., entomopathogenic fungi) using remote sensor networks and cloud computing to ensure optimum conditions for application. Ant has a back-

ground in commercial horticulture having grown up and worked on his family's horticultural business and went on to study plant science at the University of Worcester.

Dr. Bart Vandecasteele



Dr. Bart Vandecasteele is expert on compost quality and the recycling of agricultural organic waste, and on the use of compost, biochar and plant fibres in sustainable growing media, i.e., growing media blends based on sustainable and local materials allowing for reduction or complete replacement of non-renewable raw materials such as peat or stone wool, and with an added value for plant growth and environment in terms of lower need for fertilizers due to the provision of recycled nutrients. He was

leading the NutriHort Benchmark study and was convener of the related NUTRIHORT conference on innovative techniques and strategies for reduction of nutrient losses in horticulture, project leader of the Interreg2seas project Horti-BlueC on Circular Horticulture (www.horti-bluec.eu), and convener of the ISHS GrowingMedia2021 symposium (www.growingmedia2021.com/).

SPEAKERS

David May



David May is Deputy Director of Lincoln Institute of Agri-Food Technology (LIAT) and an advisor to a number of start-ups within the food and Agri sector. He is an agronomist by training having studied Horticulture at the University of Reading (BSc Hons) and worked for ADAS as a BASIS trained crop advisor, specialising in Ornamentals. He has over 30 years' experience working within the food and ornamentals supply chain, including more than 20 years at Tesco, including as Category Technical Manager for Horticulture.

The Lincoln Institute for Agri-Food Technology (LIAT) aims to support and enhance productivity, efficiency, and sustainability in food and farming through research, education, and technology. A specialist research institute of the University of Lincoln, our multi-disciplinary team brings together sector-leading expertise in a diverse range of subjects. This includes the newly formed Lincoln Agri-Robotics (LAR) is the world's first global centre of excellence in agricultural robotics, recently funded by UKRI's Research England as part of their Expanding Excellence in England (E3) fund.

Derek McCann BSc (Hons) FRSB SPHP



Following stints in research and farming and after studying Agriculture at Plymouth University Derek has spent most of his career in the Plant Health Service. He started as a front line inspector in the North West of England before moving onto regional and national roles. As a Principal Plant Health & Seeds Inspector he currently leads on designing and delivering plant health surveys and action on quarantine pest & disease outbreaks in horticulture, agriculture and the wider environment.

SPEAKERS

Judith Stuart



Judith Stuart is a Peat Policy Specialist at Defra where she has worked on soils and peat policy for over 20 years.

Susannah Ball



Susannah Ball – Susannah Ball is fourth-generation owner of Ball Horticultural Company, having started with the Company full-time in 2017. She is a graduate of St. John's College in Annapolis, MD and worked on an organic livestock farm in the Catskill Region of New York for eight years before returning to the family business. She currently leads Ball's global sustainability initiatives, overseeing sustainability strategies and implementation at over 30 locations around the world. Fluent in Spanish, Susannah also provides active support and leadership to Ball's Chilean and Mexican distribution companies. Prior to this, Ms. Ball worked with the Hand-Picked Vegetables team within PanAmerican Seed.

SPEAKERS

Jon Swain



Jon Swain is the Technical Director for NFU Energy. Since 2002, Jon has been involved in all areas of NFU Energy, with expertise in technical consultancy, renewable energy and energy scheme compliance. In recent years Jon has consulted on all manner of renewable projects, especially in AD, biomass heating and CHP.

Phil Griffiths



More than 40yrs in UK horticulture.

Horticultural education (OND Amenity Horticulture) at Myerscough College.

Started as Garden Centre Manager with Dodge City, before moving on to Sainsbury's Homebase (initially as Garden Centre Manager and then as Merchandising Manager for horticulture).

Area Manager for Beacon Garden Centres up to the takeover point by Country Gardens.

Sales Associate with Brunel Marketing (representing Penheale Nurseries & R.A.Meredith & Son).

Sales & Marketing Manager at R.A.Meredith & Son for 10yrs before leaving to take the post of Managing Director of Mercurius UK Ltd / Floramedia UK Ltd.

After 12 yrs at Floramedia, moved on to establish own company; TEK GB Ltd, offering promotional print products for horticulture.

After 3.5yrs "in the wilderness" running 2 pubs, I moved to Desch Plantpak, initially as Area Sales Manager in 2016 and then moved up to National Sales Manager in 2018.

