



THE PHOTOREPORT OF EUROPEAN YOUNG HORTICULTURISTS CEJH CONGRESS 2015

12.-18.07

THE HAGUE



„The Green Heart of Horticulture“

The Program of the 56th CEJH Congress in the Netherlands

12.07 Sunday

Arrival

Dinner in 'Le Connaisseur' & Introduction of the nations

Bar

13.07 Monday

Breakfast

General Meeting for delegated persons in Twiet

Parallel Program for participants: Excursion in the Hague

Visit Tomatoworld in Honselersdijk + Lunch

Visit Van der Spek Hoveniers in Benthuizen (landscape and gardening company)

Dinner in Wok Restaurant Westbroekpark

14.07 Tuesday

Breakfast

Tree Nursery Ebben in Cuijk

Dinner in La Lanterna

15.07 Wednesday

Breakfast

Boskoop: Rijnbek & Son Perennials Producer

Visit GGG Grünewald (young plants) in

Gravenzande + Barbecue

Canal cruise through the companies and nice evening by GGG Grünewald

16.07 Thursday

Breakfast in the Bus

Aalsmeer Flower Auction

Visiting the gardens of Rijks Museum

Lunch to go

Cycling tour in Amsterdam with Hans Kaljee, visit a landscaping Project in Amsterdam

A special walking dinner in Amsterdam

17.07 Friday

Breakfast

Visit the RijkZwaan in De Lier

Visit of the Ministry of Agriculture in the Hague +

Lunch

Free time

Gala Beach Party in Copa Cabana + VIP Guests

18.07 Saturday

Breakfast

Departure of the nations







TOMATOWRLD

the art of fresh and
healthy horticulture



13.07 Tomatoworld, M. van der Spek Hoveniers & Westbroekpark



The congress started with our annual general meeting, which was held in the central part of The Hague. In the meantime the non-delegated participants were enjoying a sightseeing tour of the city. After a successful meeting we were heading out into the “green heart of

horticulture” which is the province of South Holland. Our first stop was Tomatoworld in Honselersdijk, a visitor’s centre for the tomato growing industry. A guided tour showed us modern glasshouse tech, crop activities and even tasting of a wide range of tomatoes.

After lunch we moved on to the landscaping company M. van der Spek Hoveniers in Benthuizen, where we had one presentation of the company and another one by Mr. Egbert Roozen who is the director of the Dutch Landscape and Garden Contractors Association. Mr. Roozen presented to us the association’s new concept “The Living Garden” that pushes for the importance of greenery, not only for decoration but also the societal and environmental benefits it gains. In the evening we strolled in the beautiful Westbroekpark in Scheveningen with its huge collection of roses.





14.07 Tree nursery Ebben

The afternoon was spent on a guided bicycle tour with Sicco de Boer and Vincent Knop through the vast nursery lands. Although it was rainy, the whole trip was very much enjoyed.



On the second day we went straight across the country to the east to visit the tree nursery Ebben in Cuijk, one of the largest of its kind.

They grow standard, multi stem and topiary trees from 3-5x transplanted on 450 hectares. We started with coffee, an inside presentation and a look at their impressive roof garden on top of the office, planted with both: trees and herbs!







This day we headed for the cradle of nursery business: Boskoop. We visited the perennial producer Rijnbeek & Son who focuses on export of both containerized and bare-root perennials of more than 2000 varieties. Even though Boskoop has a very successful history of nurseries the disadvantages of a crowded area with small plots and a water level only 20 cm below ground level were also visible. For example expanding your nursery can be really hard and heavy machinery is not an option because the ground is too soft and can't take the weight. To really get the vibes of history we also visited the nursery museum which at that moment held an exhibition of clematis.

15.07 Rijnbeek & Son, GGG Grünewald and Canal Cruise

We left Boskoop for a visit at GGG Grünewald in 's-Gravenzande, a company specialized in rooting cuttings of bedding and patio plants. Apart from a tour of their flower trials and greenhouses we got a interesting canal cruise by GGG Grünewald through the horticultural intensive area of the Westland.

This region has the largest contiguous greenhouse area of the world covering an area of 2 750 hectares. We were all amazed. The day ended with a superb barbecue at the company in the warm evening.





16.07 Aalsmeer Flower Auction & Amsterdam



This was our earliest morning of the week. We had to be at the Aalsmeer Flower Auction by 7 am. Owned by the flower trading corporative FloraHolland it is the world's largest flower auction and also the largest building in the world by footprint. Around 20 million flowers from all over the world are sold here daily. Cut flowers is the main product but pot plants are also important.

Our trip continued to the newly renovated gardens of the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam. There we got a tour of the project by the landscape contractor M. van der Spek.

In the afternoon we visited the much renowned botanical garden Hortus Botanicus and had a thrilling bike tour through the city with tree consultant Hans Kaljee, who told us about arboriculture in the sinking city. In some places trees have to be

planted 40 cm above ground level so that they will not sink too fast in the waterlogged ground. Amsterdam is still the city of elms with more than 75 000 trees. To manage that, they keep a close eye on the Dutch elm disease and replace every sick tree with a resistant elm variety of hybrid origin. In the evening we had a very nice walking dinner with a guide who showed us the hotspots of the city centre.







The last day of the congress we visited RijkZwaan in De Lier. Here this international seed company has its trial centre for new tomato varieties, where they are tested for quality and optimal production practises. The place was very much like a greenhouse laboratory and we all had to wear protective clothing from tip to toe.

17.07 RijkZwaan & Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs, Gala-Beach Party

Next stop was the Ministry of Economic Affairs in the financial district of The Hague. They had merged with the Ministry of Agriculture and we met up with Sabine Hoff and Jan Klink from that department. They held a presentation of the green businesses of the Netherlands and we had a generous Q&A-session where all our questions about this fascinating country were answered.

In the evening it was time to celebrate at our traditional gala dinner, this time at a beach restaurant in Scheveningen. The mood was through the roof and some of us even challenged the cold water of the North Sea and the party went on all night.









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The ELCA is the European Landscape Contractors Association. To promote cooperation as well as the exchange of information and experience in Europe the European Landscape Contractors Association (ELCA) was founded in 1963. Twenty-one national landscaping associations are currently full members of the ELCA. Moreover the ELCA has five associated members.

The work our landscaping contractors do is very varied. Today their fields of activities are just not mainly landscaping work such as landscaping and maintain-



EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

ing gardens, private and public parks, but also of increasing importance for European landscaping contractors is the landscaping of leisure centres and sports grounds, greenery for roof gardens and facades, greenery for back yards, indoor gardens, creating slow traffic areas, landscaping roads and accompanying paths etc. as well as the renaturalisation of stream beds.

The landscaping sector is an industry with a future in Europe. Most of the 74,000 medium sized landscaping businesses employ less than 50 staff per company. The industry as a whole employs more than 350,000 staff and the number is increasing.

European landscaping companies are proud of their large number of apprentice. On average the percentage of apprentices is eight percent of the employees. This

demonstrates how many young Europeans regard the profession of landscape gardener as one with a future and how serious the companies take their responsibility towards vocational training.

The Goals

- **Promote the mutual exchange of information and experience**
- **Look after the interests of landscape contractors Europe-wide**
- **Support the vocational training of young people and the mutual exchange of young qualified landscape gardeners**
- **Promote cooperation with organizations with similar goals Europe-wide**



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57. CEJH Congress in Belgium, Antwerp 17.-23. July 2016

Sunday 17 July

Arrival
Start of the congress
Time off

Monday 18 July

Breakfast
Departure of the bus
Pcs (Research Centre of horticulture)
(incl. lunch)
Parallel program: general meeting
Callebaut (Chocolate factory)
Spruyt Jan (nursery of Perennials) (incl. dinner)
Back at the hotel

Tuesday 19 July

Breakfast
Departure of the bus
Arbor (nursery of large trees) (incl. lunch)
Tree plantation ceremony
DCM (underground injection of fertilizers)
City walking tour with dinner (Mechelen)
Back at the hotel

Wednesday 20 July

Breakfast
Start with public transport
City walking tour (Antwerp)
Brewery visit (De Koninck)
Picnic in park Koning Albert
Park Spoor Noord (swimming, soccer,...) (incl.
BBQ)
Back at the hotel



Thursday 21 July (National holiday)

Breakfast
Departure of the bus
Scheers (CHP and cut roses)
Rijmenants (Garden Centre) (incl. lunch)
Wouters (nursery of hedging plants) (incl. dinner)
Back at the hotel



SEE YOU IN BELGIUM
CEJH CONGRESS 2016
17.-23.07

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