

This is the first “Stiyka Ukraina” Newsletter of a serial of 12.

In May 2023 the group of 14 Dutch companies joined with the common goal to see how they can better contribute to strengthen the horticultural sector by commercial activities in Ukraine. The war prevents large institutions such as the World Bank from investing and starting projects when it is so necessary right now. Business do not have those barriers!

As Dutch Horticultural Cluster “Stiyka Ukraina”, we encourage to continue business and even intensify business in horticulture where possible during and after the war. We think that business, where demand meets supply, is the most sustainable and efficient way of collaboration. ***With the support and donations of the Stiyka Ukraina members we could set up a training field near Kyiv which serves as an knowledge exchange base where growers can see, learn and share the information about vegetable crops, fruits and berries, we also organized in May a first Webinar about Horticultural Situation in Ukraine.***

Since August 2023 our initiative is supported by the Dutch Government within the Private Sector Development Program!

The mission of “Stiyka Ukraina” is to give perspectives to Ukrainian & Dutch colleagues in horticulture by developing new business activities, exchanging knowledge & technology and improve access to each other’s markets.

We focus on

- introduction to the best practices of sustainable horticulture and EU regulations in Ukraine.
- Assisting local knowledge centers in problem solving and cooperation with the Dutch counterparts.
- Supporting Ukraine with creating jobs, fixing the deficit of local production and re-introduction of fresh-chains.
- Pointing out the current needs, developments, possibilities in horti business in Ukraine and presenting them to the Dutch counterparts like knowledge institution, IFIs, sector organization etc.

Our tasks

We explore business and investment opportunities for the Dutch companies in Ukraine and matching them with the Ukrainian sector.

Assess and communicate with the running projects and programs in horticultural sector of international donors and other partner organizations in order to coordinate Dutch priorities.

Position NL as a strong partner for Ukraine in horti sector and reconstruction.

Lobby the joint interests of consortium members and well as **assist** them in solving their individual issues.

The Dutch horticulture is famous about the high quality of planting materials, diversity and technology but production area and labour is scarce and companies have to deal with CO2&N issues. Ukraine has very fertile soils, a highly motivated workforce, good water and a milder climate than Spain.

In this newsletter a broad range of topics regarding the present horticulture in Ukraine will be presented to inform the members of Stiyka Ukraina regarding Ukrainian opportunities and limitations in horticulture.

Our Events



Webinar

Soil fertility and Carbon credits

- ✔ **Date**
August 15th 2023
- ✔ **Time**
15:00 CET
- ✔ **Platform**
Zoom
- ✔ **Attendance**
free with previous registration



Speakers

Frederique Vogel
Owner Holland Rosetta, Initiator of "Stiyka Ukraina"

Dr. Svyatoslav Balyuk
National Scientific Institute of Soil Science and Agrochemistry

Dr. Arjan Reijneveld
Eurofins

Moderator Introduction

Soil Fertility & Protection in Ukraine

Soil Carbon Check. A future opportunity for Ukraine?



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"Stiyka Ukraina" project is supported by the Dutch Government within the Private Sector Development program

Our upcoming WEBINAR scheduled for Tuesday, August 15, 2023, at 16:00 (Kyiv time). This WEBINAR is very interesting for UKRAINIAN growers and landowners!!

The webinar will focus on the current state of soils in Ukraine and methods for their improvement. This topic will be presented by Dr. Sviatoslav Balyuk from the Institute of Soil Science and Agrochemistry in Kyiv.

Dr. Arjan Reijneveld, expert Eurofins, will speak about Carbon Credits. The concept of "carbon credit" serves as a Certificate to store Carbon in the soil which has a VALUE!

PROGRAMME WEBINARS STIYKA UKRAINA

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Aug 15th 2023				
WEBINAR 1 STIYKA UKRAINA				
Soil	16:00 Kyiv	Introduction Stiyka Ukraina		Frederique Vogel
	16:10 Kyiv	Soil Fertility & Protection in West Ukraine	National Scientific Institute of Soil Science and Agrochemistry	Dr. Svyatoslav Balyuk
	16:30 Kyiv	Soil Carbon Check, A future opportunity for Ukraine?	Eurofins	Dr. Arjan Reijneveld
Aug 29th				
WEBINAR 2				
Finance	16:00 Kyiv	Dutch credits for Dutch Technologies	Invest International	Mirian Valstar
	16:30 Kyiv	Insurance	Atradius	TBI
	16:50 Kyiv	Micro-credits	WOCCU	Vitalina Kutsyba
Sept 14th				
Fieldday Seminar				
Fieldday		Different topics on vegetable and berry production in Ukraine and European Union (programme will follow)		
Sept 19th				
WEBINAR 3				
water	16:00 Kyiv	Actual Water Requirement&Availability in UA horticulture	Primavera	Dr. Olga Zhovtonog
	16:30 Kyiv	Finetuned fertigation systems	VGB watertechnik	Kevin Hensen
Oct 3rd				
WEBINAR 4				
A balanced and vital crop	16:00 Kyiv	Nutrient uptake	Delphy	TBI
	16:30 Kyiv	Natural predators and biological crop protection	Koppert	Olena Boltovska
	16:50 Kyiv	How to create a vital crop to minimize diseases?	Bodem&Groen	Marcel de Jong
Oct 17th				
WEBINAR 5				
Popular and new Vegetables	16:00 Kyiv	Vegetable topics to be selected	Rijk Zwaan	TBI
		Vegetable topics to be selected	Enza	TBI
		Vegetable topics to be selected	Bejo	TBI
		The increase of green asparagus consumption in Europe	Limgroup	TBI
Oct 31st				
WEBINAR 6				
Berry production for the local and international market	16:00 Kyiv	Strawberry	Fresh Forward	TBI
		Raspberry	Abbreeding	Nico de Groot
		Blueberry	Schrijnwerkers	TBI
Nov 14th				
WEBINAR 7				
Medical Cannabis, new crop for UA?	16:00 Kyiv	TBC		
Nov 28th				
WEBINAR 8				
Coconut fruit, vegetables and Berries	16:00 Kyiv	Natural Refrigerants and the advantages of it	Van Kempen Refrigeration	Frank Boeijen
		Logistic Hubs	TBI	TBI

The "Chumak" factory requires 1200 hectares of tomatoes for its operations.



The owners of the "Chumak" brand are considering several settlements in the Odessa region for the construction of a new tomato processing plant.

This information is reported by "[Bessarabia INFORM](#)."

The most pressing concern for the manufacturer's representatives is the **establishment of tomato cultivation within a 100 km radius of the future plant**, with a minimum of **1200 hectares**.

This prospect has caught the interest of farmers from the Kiliya territorial community. Additionally, experts from the Kiliya city council are preparing information about available land plots to be provided to the enterprise owners.

According to the publication, "Chumak" will review all proposals over the course of several months. The construction of the plant is estimated to take at least two years. Moreover, after the de-occupation of Kahovka, the

owners plan to revive the enterprise there if feasible.



Prices for Borscht Vegetable Set are at Their Lowest

The vegetable prices have reached their lowest point.

This situation can be attributed, in part, to the amplification of information

regarding the anticipated shortage due to the losses suffered by the agricultural sector in Kherson region and the early vegetables."

Compared to the previous year, only beets and potatoes have remained relatively stable in price, while the rest have sharply declined. Onion prices have dropped to 14 UAH/kg on the wholesale market 'Shuvar,' down from 23 UAH last year. Carrots now cost 17 UAH, compared to 21 UAH previously. Beets are currently at 8.5 UAH/kg, down from 10, and potatoes are priced at 8 UAH, down from 8.2. This is according to Ivan Stefanyshyn, an advisor to the director of the agricultural product wholesale market 'Shuvar' in Lviv.

He also highlights an unusual situation with cabbage. In August 2022, the vegetable was priced at 22 UAH/kg, and today it's just 7 UAH. Many entrepreneurs also faced challenges with onions. Last year, there were high prices for onions during the winter-spring period, and some saw it as an opportunity for profit. They planted a lot, and the supply exceeded demand. The price per kilogram of onions dropped to 14 UAH, while the expectation was around 30 UAH. [source...](#)

Successful Season for Strawberry Producers

Strawberry yield in Ukraine year was quite good. The amount of collected berries turned out to be even

larger than the spring predictions. Even though it was already the second season without berries from the occupied territories of the South, suppliers from other regions of Ukraine managed to meet the demand, [noted](#) Taras Bashtannik, the President of the Ukrainian Fruit and Vegetable Association.

The geography of strawberry cultivation is quite extensive: there are large plantations in Zakarpattia, Lviv, Volyn, Ternopil, Vinnytsia, Odesa, and Zhytomyr regions.

However, due to rainy weather in June, there were ongoing issues with the quality of the berries.

The average wholesale price for producers during the season was 40-50 hryvnias (€1,0 – 1,25) per kilogram. Berries harvested after the rain were approximately 20% cheaper. However, fortunate farmers who avoided the bad weather were able to sell their berries at a higher price, around 10% higher than the previous season, even slightly more. Farmers had concerns that the price would significantly drop during the peak of the season, but this didn't happen due to the substantial market capacity. Strawberries are well-known to consumers, anticipated, and loved, leading to quite active purchasing.



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Government Expands Opportunities for Processing Grant Program

The Ukrainian government has expanded the opportunities of the grant program for the establishment of processing enterprises under the name "Processing". Soon, businesses that are registered, operational, or planning to start operations in the de-occupied territories will receive grants for the development of their processing enterprises. Additionally, a portion of the fees from grant recipients may be compensated from local budgets, as [stated](#) on the Ministry of Economy website.

German Investors Receive Extended State Guarantees for Operations in Ukraine

The Federal Ministry of Economy of Germany has announced the expansion of the state investment guarantee program for German companies that decide to invest in Ukraine, where full-scale warfare is ongoing.

This is reported by the Ministry of Economy of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The investment program, now covers property losses and conversion and transfer risks, supporting German enterprises in Ukraine, and waiving the application fee until at least 2025. This expansion, backed by the National Bank of Ukraine and German authorities, bolsters economic collaboration. Currently benefiting 14 companies in Ukraine, the guarantees cover 280 million euros, excluding pending applications. This move not only supports Ukraine during these challenging times but also strengthens long-term economic recovery and bilateral cooperation between Germany and Ukraine. [source...](#)

