



Webinar

Strawberry production and biological crop protection in Horticulture

Date:
December 5, 2023

Time:
15:30 CET

Platform:
Zoom

Participation:
free with previous registration



Speakers

Facilitators

Frederique Vogel
Valery Lashinsky
Stiyka Ukraina

Anton Dovganiuk
Fresh Forward

Piet Beurskens
RAPO

Olena Boltovska
KOPPERT

Strawberry market summary and prospects for coming season

New strawberry Varieties for new bright Future.

Natural predators, Nematodes and biological crop protection



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December 5th, 2023
Our sixth webinar

“Strawberry production and biological crop protection in Horticulture”

[LINK for registration](#)

November 14th, Sityka Ukraina had a Webinar “Berry production for the local and international market”

The first speaker, **Nico de Groot**, presented insights of the breeding program of ABB (Advanced Berry Breeding) and key aspects of growing raspberries in open and closed ground.



The second speaker, **Leon Schrijnwerkers**, shared his over 50 years of experience in cultivating blueberries, what makes it profitable and areas where cutting corners should be avoided.



The webinar recording is already available on our website.

First-ever global estimation of the impact of disasters on agriculture

Since November 6, several industry organizations have been blocking the Dorohusk, Hrebenne and Korczowa border crossings in south-eastern Poland. Prolonged negotiations between representatives of the Ukrainian government and Polish carriers on unlocking the border, held on November 13, ended without results.

Deputy Minister of Community Development, Territories, and Infrastructure Serhiy Derkach reported this on [Facebook](#).



"The key demand of the protesters is to return to the permit system for freight transportation. This issue is not discussed at such meetings. And it is crucial for us: the 'transport visa-free' should continue and be extended. At least until our victory. The absurdity of the demand is that Polish protesters are not turning to their government but want Ukraine to appeal to the EU regarding permits. Other issues of the protesters are not of interest," he stated.

Serhiy Derkach added that the government continues to seek a compromise to increase capacity, but it is challenging.

"We proposed to the Polish authorities to open lanes for empty trucks at the Ugrniv-Dolhobychiv and Hrushiv-Budomezh border checkpoints. We are waiting for a response again. We do not retreat and insist: the border blockade is a violation of several agreements. The border must be unblocked immediately," summarized the deputy minister.

Impact of War: 20% of Ukrainian Agricultural Lands Unusable for Use

In the wake of the ongoing war, approximately 20% of Ukraine's agricultural lands have become unsuitable for cultivation, according to statements from Taras Vysotskyi, the first deputy minister of agrarian policy.



This revelation emerged during a telethon titled "United News," as reported by [Ukrinform](#).

Mr. Vysotskyi pointed out that this 20% reduction in available lands for cultivation is a direct consequence of the hostilities, with the situation being notably worse compared to 2021. However, he emphasized that despite this setback, there is no immediate cause for alarm. This is primarily due to Ukrainians consuming agricultural products at a rate three times lower than their domestic production. Consequently, a considerable portion of the agricultural output is expected to be directed towards export markets this year.

The Ukrainian government has outlined initiatives such as humanitarian demining, preferential lending programs, and grant schemes to bolster the resilience of the agricultural industry and mitigate the impact of the war on Ukraine's vital sector.



The season of imported cucumbers has started earlier

Large batches of cucumbers from Turkey have begun to arrive in Ukraine

According to the analysts of the [EastFruit](#) project, the cucumber import season has started earlier than last year and has practically coincided with the end of the season for this product in Ukrainian stationary greenhouses. The quality of imported cucumbers, according to sellers, is satisfactory, and the prices are slightly lower than for local produce.

Currently, cucumbers from Turkey and Romania are being shipped to the Ukrainian market at prices ranging from 55-60 UAH/kg (\$1.52-1.65/kg). Meanwhile, cucumbers from local greenhouses are arriving in small batches, and the selling prices in this segment are stated within the range of 60-70 UAH/kg (\$1.65-1.93/kg), which is on average 12% cheaper than the week before. The main reason for the price decrease in this segment, according to key market players, is the sharp increase in the supply of imported cucumbers, while the demand in the market remains moderate.

According to the producers themselves, the season for locally produced greenhouse cucumbers will last a maximum of one or two weeks, as most stationary greenhouse farms are already shipping the last large batches of this product.

Currently, the price for greenhouse cucumbers in Ukraine is on average 13% lower than at the beginning of November last year.

The World Bank will allocate \$700 million for Ukrainian farmers.

The Grant Agreement of the Multidonor Trust Fund for Assistance, Recovery, Reconstruction, and Reform of Ukraine, as well as the Loan Agreement (Emergency Inclusive Support Project for the Recovery of Ukrainian Agriculture – ARISE), was signed by the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine and the World Bank.



The "Emergency Inclusive Support Project for the Recovery of Ukrainian Agriculture (ARISE)" involves providing Ukraine with \$700 million to support agriculture, as stated in the [Ministry of Agrarian Policy's announcement](#).

The funds will be directed towards the realization of two components of the ARISE project:

1. Financial support for the "Affordable Loans 5-7-9%" program for agriculture and food processing.
2. Providing grant assistance to small agricultural producers, specifically land users and those specializing in the breeding of cows, goats, or sheep.

The project's implementation is planned for 2023 and 2024.

