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# GreenSys 1009 June 14-19, 2009

Loews Le Concorde Hotel Québec City, Québec, Canada

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- P131 Some Effects of Organic Matter Sources over Chemical Composition of Lettuce (Lactuca Sativa)
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- P134 Chemical Composition of Lettuce (Lactuca Sativa) as Affected by Organic Matter Sources
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# Wednesday, June 17

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- P57 The Use of Biodegradable Pots for the Cultivation of Poinsettia (Euphorbia Pulcherrima)
- P60 Comparison of Hydroponics and Aquaponics for Greenhouse Strawberry Production
- P63 Effects of NH4+-N and NO3--N Ratio on the Growth and Quality of Bunching Onion under High Temperature Stress
- P66 Effect of the Nitrogen Nutrient on Pigments of Flower Stalk in Chinese Kale
- P69 Effect of Nitrogen and Sulphur on the Growth and Quality of Bunching Onion

advantage over conventional heating setups. Direct measurements of energy consumption for the two test cases indicated 35-40% savings for infrared heated greenhouse. Besides, infrared heating contributed to improved total quality of the cultivated lettuce.

#### P42

### On-line Plant Stress Monitoring: a Statistical Process Control approach

Kris Villez (1), Kathy Steppe (2), Dirk De Pauw (3), Tom De Swaef (2);

(1) Département de génie civil, Faculté de sciences et de génie, modelEAU, Québec, Canada; (2) Laboratory of Plant Ecology, Department of Applied Ecology and Environmental Biology, Ghent, Belgium; (3) Phyto-IT, Mariakerke, Belgium

A new research line is set up envisioning to establish on-line tools for early detection of plant and/or crop stress conditions in view of timely interventions for plant damage prevention. Unfold Principal Component Analysis (U-PCA), a classic yet powerful tool from the chemometrics field, is applied for efficient handling of multivariate data sets. This work describes an application of a fault detection scheme based on principal component analysis (PCA) for living crops. Two crops, young apple trees and truss tomato plants, were used for testing the method. Obtained data consists of 5-minute means of photosynthetically active radiation, vapour pressure deficit and stem diameter variations. The data are reorganized such that a single diurnal cycle is regarded as a separate observation, giving rise to 288 measurements for each measured variable. U-PCA is subsequently applied to the resulting 864-variate dataset for monitoring of both a control plant and a stress plant which is exposed to drought stress during a well-defined period. The first 15 and 10 observations of the apple trees, and tomato plants especially, are used for U-PCA model calibration. In both cases, 1 principal component is selected to be incorporated in the model. By means of the constructed U-PCA model the imposed stress condition for the respective apple tree was detected on the 4th day of the stress period and 7 days before visual signs of turgidity loss were observed. As such, it can be concluded that the U-PCA tool is able to discriminate well between normal and abnormal situations with only 3 days of delay between the start of the drought experiment and its effective detection. For the tomato plant data similar results are obtained. As such, techniques from the field of statistical process control are proven to be promising tools for the on-line monitoring of living crops.

#### P43

# Water Performance of Potted Carnation Affected by Peat-alternative Growing-media Mixtures Jesus Ochoa;

Producción Vegetal, UPCT, Cartagena, Spain

Alternative substrates are being introduced for composing the growing medium. The origin and the proportion of the constituents determine largely the physical and chemical characteristics of the resulting growing medium and consequently its management in the nursery. Water wise use in the nursery is important to maintain productivity and make the nursery plant production environmentally sound. The aim of this study was to evaluate the growth and water performance of potted carnation "Summerdress" cultivar, grown in 4 different growing-media mixtures based on primarily coconut fibre (with two different particle size) and different proportions of peatmoss and vermiculite. A randomized block design with five replicates per treatment and six rooted cuttings per replication was used. Growth plant parameters, relative chlorophyll content (RCC) in leaves and water relations were measured after 20 weeks of cultivation. The water balance was determined throughout the cultivation cycle. At the end of the cultivation cycle the plants grown in the mixtures with more proportion of peatmoss gave the highest fresh and dry weight, the highest number of shoots and flowers per plant and the highest chlorophyll content of leaves. The water balance showed a greater consumption of water, which was a 12.9% higher in the substrate mixtures with higher proportion of peatmoss compared to lower ones. The water relations were not significantly affected by the components variation, showing all treatments high leaf water potential values, which may indicate a well plant hydration status. The photosynthetic rate and the stomatal conductance were not significantly affected by the components variation, this suggest a well transpirative capacity in all cases.

#### P44

## A Multifunction Dehumidifying Heat Pump for Greenhouses

Chassériaux Gérard (1), Gaschet Olivier (2);

(1) Unité de recherche UP EPHOR, Angers, France; (2) Ett : Energie Transfert Thermique, Ploudalmezeau, France

The improvements in greenhouse structure and equipment with the aim of saving energy (double walls, thermal screens) have led to better insulation and airtightness but also induced microclimatic changes, especially on night time humidity levels. During the last decade, dynamic climate procedures, such as temperature integration, have been