

Production continues in Sri Lanka

Anyone that follows the international news will have seen that Sri Lanka is going through some very difficult times at the moment.

Due to the complicated economic and political situation, the country is facing power cuts, and food, fuel and other essential items such as medicines are in short supply. There are multiple compounding factors that have caused this situation, which of course includes the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In spite of the gravity of the situation, our production sites are all continuing to operate at full capacity. This is due in part to the Sri Lankan government's support of companies that export from Sri Lanka. Also, Biogrow is a well-established company with a strong network of local partners. Our director in Sri Lanka Nicolas Bourhis explained "We have a very close-knit and dedicated team of managers and suppliers, who really pull together when production needs to go up a gear. This is without a doubt one of our great strengths".



Innovation at the heart of the Vila Group

If you look behind the Biogrow brand you'll find the story of a family of French farmers, the Vilas, who have been growing fruit and vegetables in the South of France for the last 40 years.

They started off growing in open fields, then moved into greenhouse growing and for more than 2 decades now they've been producing and commercialising coco fibre substrates under the Biogrow brand, which they use in all their hydroponic production sites.

At the head of the operation is Bruno Vila. In the 15 years since Bruno took over the running of the family business, the Vila Group's activities have expanded, been modernized and this constant drive for more efficient and environmental growing continues today.

Nowadays, their activities include hydroponic production in greenhouses, orchards, organic growing, renewable energies, and of course the production and exportation of coconut fiber through the Biogrow company.



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New Operations Manager joins Biogrow India

Already living and working in India (New Delhi) when he applied to work with us, Vincent's previous employment was with a large French company manufacturing heavy equipment, where he started as Assistant Financial Controller, closely followed by a successful stint as an Operations coordinator for the same firm.

Feeling that it was time to move on and explore new opportunities, Vincent applied for a role within Biogrow, and after a series of successful interviews, was offered the position of Operations Manager, based in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

Having immersed himself in the country and embraced the many challenges this posed, we're confident that Vincent is perfectly positioned to adapt to a new role with us, and we're certain that his enthusiasm, coupled with his skillset, will see him fulfil his new role with gusto!

Biogrow China webinar

Following the cancellation of the Hortiflorexpo in China, an online event was organised by Biogrow's international sales team and Tick Rise, a distributor for Tutrina (a real-time plant activity evaluation system). The topic of the day was "Root environment management during the early stages of a hydroponic plantation".

More than 200 attendees joined us for the webinar, including greenhouse growers, universities and research departments.

Biogrow China's technical consultant gave a detailed presentation and explanation of how to use coco substrates for hydroponic growing. In the second part of the webinar, Biogrow's French team led a Q&A session.

Thanks to everyone who joined us for this event and we look forward to doing a follow-up in the not-too-distant future.



News in brief:

- Pallets made from 100% coco fibre currently under test



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