



## New Technical Advisor for the Chinese market

Following some recent developments and the strengthening of our market position in China, we are delighted to introduce our new Technical Advisor for the Chinese market Mr YANG Kun.

Kun studied Horticulture at the Northwest A&F University in Xianyang. Once graduated he got the opportunity to undertake further training in the United States and the Netherlands. The time he spent in the US and in the Netherlands was a very rich experience. It was also a great learning curve and proved to be a springboard for his career once he returned to China. For the last 8 years he's been specializing in the greenhouse production of tomatoes and peppers.

China is an agricultural country, yet there are few young people that are willing to devote themselves to this sector, so it is a great chance for those individuals wanting to modernise & improve Chinese agricultural practices. Kun truly believes that hydroponic cultivation is the future for those high value-added varieties such as tomato, pepper, strawberry, blueberry, roses, and so on...

## Uncertain times for greenhouse energy

Growers of tomatoes, cut flowers and pot plants are no different from the average household; their greenhouses use a lot of gas and electricity, especially in winter, for heating and lighting the plants. Prices have recently risen rapidly, especially since the outbreak of the war in Ukraine and the reduction in gas supplies from Russia. Whether or not this will put horticulturalists in the red depends mainly on how long this energy crisis lasts, according to a survey by greenhouse horticulture organization Glastuinbouw Nederland.

Before 2022, 75 per cent of the greenhouse horticulture companies had fixed the price for at least some of their energy in longer-term contracts with energy providers. Nevertheless, 38 per cent of greenhouse horticulturalists expect to have difficulty paying their bills by the end of 2022.

Some growers decided last winter to heat less, switch off the lights or not to use all their greenhouses.

Source: Arno Van 'T Hoog (Wageningen University)  
Publication: Wageningen World | 2 | 2022



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"Winston Churchill's famous dictum, "Never let a good crisis go to waste," could not be more apt for Sri Lanka in its current context. Many countries like India and Thailand implemented wide-ranging economic reforms after undergoing severe economic crises and came out much stronger."

*Talal Rafi - The Diplomat*

## Biogrow India inaugurates new head office

Accommodating the needs of Team Biogrow as we expand in India, has meant relocating to a bigger and better equipped office space. Seen in the picture is the newest addition to our team, Head of Sales/Technical advisor, Ms Manpreet.

As everyone settles into the new working environment, we reflect on how far we have come since the initial phase of the business, when it was just Benjamin and his former administrative assistant Lakshmi running the show - who has since been promoted to administrative manager!

## Sri Lanka's economic crisis an opportunity for change

"Winston Churchill's famous dictum, "Never let a good crisis go to waste," could not be more apt for Sri Lanka in its current context. Many countries like India and Thailand implemented wide-ranging economic reforms after undergoing severe economic crises and came out much stronger. Sri Lanka still has a long way to go to come out of this crisis, but the green shoots of recovery are beginning to appear. Shifting the country toward an export-oriented economy should now be the goal. Sri Lanka needs to go with the global trend in manufacturing, which is to be part of global supply chains."

*Source: Talal Rafi / The Diplomat*

At Biogrow Sri Lanka we experienced this opportunity for change during the summer. At the beginning of 2022, the situation in Sri Lanka was very uncertain and our local team was constantly adapting their work practices.

What's been astonishing this year is we've produced more grow bags than ever. During the summer we even beat our daily production record, which is really impressive when you think about all the obstacles we were up against. It goes to show that if as a company you can stay flexible and adapt to whatever the current situation throws up it allows you to manage so-called crises and turn them into opportunities for growth.



### News in brief:

- Work under way to build new premises for Biogrow Lanka
- New partnership with Agromaster for the Armenian market



### Come & meet us:

- **Expo AgroAlimentaria Guanajuato 2022**

Irapuato, Mexico

8th-11th November 2022

Come and see us at stand 219-221



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