

CONTRIBUTE TO OUR PROGRAMME!



The activities during Biokennis Week 2022 are the ultimate showcase for every aspect of 'organic'. The webinars, the trade fair and the company visits will ensure that visitors can gain new insights, expand their network and exchange knowledge. Biokennis Week is taking place from 10-14 January 2022. The webinars are being held on 10 and 11 January 2022.

For the webinars during Biokennis Week, the Programme Committee is looking for businesses, NGOs, government bodies, researchers and consultants to demonstrate that organic is a viable alternative to traditional farming and agri-food production. We can only tackle today's challenges related to climate, sustainability and health by working together, and that starts with informing, inspiring and motivating one another. Play your part in this by contributing to Biokennis Week.

HOW TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAMME

To share your knowledge during the event.

Send an email to workshops@bio-beurs.nl with the following details:

- Fill out "Workshop submit BKW 2022" in the subject line of the email
- Indicate the name of the contact person
- Phone number of contact person
- Email of contact person
- Company name
- Title of the workshop
- Name(s) of the speakers and company they work for
- Description of the workshop in 75 words
- Language of the workshop
- Indicate which indicated theme the workshops belongs to
- Indicate if it is a commercial workshop (€500,-) or not (for free). As an exhibitor your cost for a workshop are €250,-

The deadline for submissions is **Friday 17 September 2021**. The approval process includes consideration of whether the proposal comes from a commercial company or a non-profit organization/researcher acting in the public interest. Commercial companies are required to pay a fee of € 500. The fee is waived for proposals based on content that serves the public interest.

The Programme Committee – comprising Kees van Zelderen, Bert van Ruitenbeek, Talis Bosma, Geertje Schlaman-Kok, Leen Janmaat, Thomas Schara, Edith Lammerts van Bueren, Marry van den Top, Goaitske Iepema, Feitze van der Hoek and Henk Gerbers, and headed up by Maria van Boxtel – will discuss all the proposals and decide whether they can be included in the programme.

WHAT WILL BE THE MAIN TOPICS DURING BIOKENNIS WEEK?

The Programme Committee has identified a number of key topics. Proposals that are aligned with these themes have more chance of being included in the programme.

Biokennis Week will pay extra attention to various topics, such as young organic farmers. For example, the 'Bioboer zoekt Bioboer' match-making concept attracts young entrepreneurs to the trade fair, with their own and sometimes new revenue models. There will also be special attention for wholesale and retail with the theme of 'Market development: how can we win over consumers?'. The topic of 'Short chains: are there effective revenue models in a cooperative approach?' will appeal to enterprising farmers. Besides that, we will be focusing on traditional farmers and those in transition with topics that bridge the knowledge gap between the traditional approach and organic, e.g. grassland management, grass-clover, strip tilling, organic fertilizers and under-sowing. If your proposal fits with one of these topics, it will have more chance of being included in the programme. For an overview of all topics, go to www.bio-beurs.nl.

More details about the Biokennis Week topics: ROOM FOR GREEN

1. Farm to Fork, circular agriculture, nature-inclusive farming and other policies – how can the sector contribute to changing the system?

The EU has a new agricultural strategy: Farm to Fork, which guides the new Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). The goal is 25% organic farming by 2030. How can the Dutch sector contribute to the key policy issues? Climate, nitrogen, biodiversity, soil fertility, food security and health are all future challenges for governments.

Organic farming can allow land and ecosystems to recover. Monocultures are susceptible to pests and diseases and, in intensive farming, are dependent on synthetic fertilizers and pesticides. From a longer-term perspective, it can be concluded that closed-loop organic farming is a robust way of feeding the world sustainably while also preserving the ecosystem.

2. Climate, circularity and biodiversity: resilient business systems in practice. Will organic remain at the forefront of sustainability?

The weather is becoming more extreme, so how can the organic sector prepare for that? Biodiversity is rapidly declining. Some people are even calling it ecocide. Is it possible to achieve a dual effect that benefits both the climate and biodiversity? We are looking for the very latest practical examples: nature-inclusive, resilient cultivation methods such as strip tilling, farming on peatlands, the use of different varieties and working towards better soil. How can we develop a business model that benefits nature and can also cope with extremely wet or dry periods?

Organic farming is tied to the land; a circular approach is at the very heart of organic. Nevertheless, there is room for further development within the organic sector too. We are looking for new perspectives and inspiring examples: how can we close the loop by working with networks and partner companies? Are there new revenue models in 'green services'? How can the organic sector retain its pioneering position? And besides the farmers themselves, how can the movement get traders, retailers and consumers on board?

3. Market development, producers and traders/retailers: how can we win over consumers? How do we keep the prices fair? And what about new packaging concepts?

How can the sector win consumers over to organic products? Will organic continue to tell its story, and are there new ways to do so? How are industry members working together on loyalty and engagement? We are looking for examples of market developments, new forms of collaboration or new packaging concepts as inspiration for growing the market successfully or working together in other ways – examples of collaboration that will result in a greener, fairer, more socially responsible and more resilient economy as a whole.

4. Transitioning to organic: new and/or young farmers

There is a growing demand for organic produce and the sector still has plenty of room for new organic entrepreneurs. We are looking for contributions to help stimulate the transition among both experienced farmers and starters/new entrants, in all areas that are relevant for organic: from farming to wholesale and retail.

5. Technological innovation versus ecological innovation. More technology or more people?

Is the farming sector working towards change based on technological solutions, or can ecology be used too? In which direction is the organic sector innovating? What can the sector offer to the agricultural industry as a whole?

Is it contributing to the debate on technological end-of-pipe solutions (air washers, etc.) in traditional agriculture versus ecological solutions that are preferred by the organic sector? Should the nitrogen issue be tackled at source (e.g. concentrated feed?) or should nitrogen be captured? How does the organic story come across?

Additionally, how is the organic sector innovating? The organic sector needs more people, not least in order to achieve the climate goals – as illustrated by organic farmer Meino Smit's thesis. At the same time, technology can offer huge opportunities for the organic sector (in terms of robotization, data, sensor technology, artificial intelligence, deep learning, etc.). By applying these high-tech solutions in farming, we can work in even closer harmony with nature and make even better use of the power of nature. However, robotization could mean that the human factor is largely eliminated from farming and the loss of many jobs in rural areas. What are the opportunities? And what are the threats?

6. Short chains: connecting with the customer

With approximately a quarter of its chains being short, the organic sector has a strong focus on selling directly to consumers. Consumers themselves are increasingly joining forces in innovative concepts to source from – and even invest in – local organic farmers. We are looking for good examples of short chains – both existing and new ones. From smart processing solutions on the farm, to new forms of collaboration such as cooperatives and other partnerships – how are you connecting with consumers in the short chain?

7. Organic in education

Organic farming sometimes still has an image problem in vocational agricultural education. How can the sector connect with traditional farming educational programmes?

8. Healthy food, natural resistance and health – how can the sector contribute to a healthy ecosystem?

The COVID-19 pandemic is further driving the demand for healthy food to support the body's natural resistance. Human health is inextricably linked to healthy ecosystems with healthy soil, crops and animals. Being 'healthy' is not just about not being ill, but rather about continuously working on one's physical, mental, social and ecological well-being. How is the organic sector supporting this? We also welcome proposals about topics related to plant health or animal welfare!

9. New organic legislation: what are the changes?

The new organic regulation comes into force on 1 January 2022, replacing the current basic legislation: Regulation No. 834/2007. We are looking for contributions that will clearly explain the changes per sector.

KEY DATES

Friday 17 September 2021: Deadline for the submission of proposed contributions to the programme

15 October 2021: Programme Committee will announce which proposals have been accepted

1 December 2021: Workshop programme will be published online

10 and 11 January 2022: Webinars during Biokennis Week



WHAT TYPES OF CONTRIBUTIONS ARE WE LOOKING FOR?



Please note!

If your proposal is accepted, the Programme Committee will contact you to discuss the content and a suitable format for your contribution. In 2022, the contributions will mainly be held online as webinars.

- **Presentations** with time for discussion and questions from the audience at the end.
- **Workshops** are of a practical nature with a focus on applications and/or are based on real-world situations. Since the workshops will mainly be held online as webinars, the opportunities for interaction with the audience will be slightly more limited. Nevertheless, we expect the audience to make an active contribution. Preferably, there should also be some practical input. Please see below for a number of tips.
- **Debates** are aimed at exploring a current topic in depth by creating interaction between experts and the audience.
- **Other** (please indicate your intended approach).

Important tips for all formats:

- Use clear and simple language
- Put yourself in your target group's shoes
- State the aim and indicate the scope of your contribution at the start of the session
- Explain what you will do with viewers' input, such as the results of polls, or when the questions received in the chat will be answered.