

MATRIX Crop report – Week# 18
Holland, April 28th, 2003

Keep strong growth in the Matrix crops. Keep the difference between day and night temperatures small, for instance day-night set points of 18-17°C, with the venting target close (+0.5°C) to the heating line. Matrix has a lighter leaf color than DRW 7106 but darker than Style.

If the plants are a bit soft and show growth spots, there was not enough venting and the climate was a bit too humid. Such crops are also more susceptible to Botrytis. What should be done?

- Vent more, provided the outside temperature is not too low.
- Be careful with irrigation and do not start too early (wait till the plants are active, about 2 hours after sunrise) and stop in time.
- Do not have too much drain on dull days.
- Start and stop with a higher EC; when sunny, the drip EC can be reduced.
- Maintain a minimum crack in new greenhouses: keep the greenhouse 'leaky'.

This year there is also more fruit drop with Matrix. Measures to limit this problem can be found in the current tip for Lemance.

On a few nurseries Matrix has fairly dark fruits. These tomatoes will get large but are also a bit slower. Keep up enough speed and expose more clusters so that they color faster. Keep an eye on the K level. Make a small adjustment because the plants apparently demand much K.