

## **Tricia Crop Report, Week 24**

### **Holland, June 13th**

The last few weeks we often had changeable and cool weather. This made steering quite difficult because we wanted to stimulate transpiration to prepare the plants for the summer but we did not want any cold heads. After all, we are close to the longest day of the year and we need a strong plant now.

This week it will be totally different. The wind will turn to southwest and the outside air will be warmer and more humid. We have to keep the heads strong and make sure that the leaves stay long enough. This can be achieved by stimulating transpiration. Start ramping up in time and venting in time becomes very important. Keep the 24hr temperature 19 –19.5°C on sunny, warm days and compensate if needed during the pre-night. A 24hr temperature of 18-18.5°C is good enough on days with less than 1500 Joules. Water uptake will be larger than during the past weeks; give 3.5 to 4 cc per Joule on the warmest days.

We visited a greenhouse in Belgium last week where they still break leaves. It seems that leaves of Tricia can be broken off easily under certain conditions. The grower had hardly any problems with Botrytis and the crop looked strong. Yet, we want to draw your attention to a few points:

- Work accurately and cleanly. Let skilled workers do this job instead of students for instance.
- Do not leave any stubs, and cut these off should there be any.
- Spray large wounds with a fungicide.
- Apply a treatment against Botrytis at least once a month in order to prevent that it will attack later in the summer or fall.