

**Funky crop Report, Week #18**  
**Holland, May 2, 2005,**

It is now early May and we have already had some nice summer-like days. But we have to remember, it is still May and while the light conditions are usually good, the outside temperatures can vary quite a bit and there's no doubt we will still get days that are sunny but cold

While the influence of pipe heating on the greenhouse climate will decrease, the effect of venting on the climate inside the greenhouse will become steadily more important.

**Venting during sunny and mild weather**

Open the vents quickly on warm days and decrease the P-band. We have positive experiences with a light dependent reduction of 2 to 3°C on the venting set point. Create this reduction between 300 and 600 Watt/m<sup>2</sup>. Venting is not a problem during mild weather, provided the outside temperature is at least 15°C.

Also increase the rain position of the vents during warm days, in case of a thunderstorm. Consider a rain position of 20% on the lee-side and 5 to 10% on the windward side. Nearly closed vents during rain showers will cause enormous shocks in transpiration. We prefer a crop that will get a little wet than a very low venting rate.

**Venting for Funky during sunny and cool weather**

We are coming out of the winter/early spring, so the venting targets are still fairly frugal. Pay attention when sunny and cold and do not use a light dependent decrease on the vent temperature. Only use these reductions with mild weather. Have a large P-band when cool, so that the vents react slower.

Prior to the afternoon, temperature control should have priority over humidity targets. Only start squeezing the vents at the end of the afternoon in order to realize a lower humidity deficit. Start at about 17:00 to 18:00 hrs, so that the greenhouse temperature will not go up anymore. Consider a venting temperature of 25 to 26°C. This is a good way to keep the foliage lush, especially for Funky. Also think about using a screen during the day to cut back on transpiration. This can be especially useful on a sunny day after a few dark days.