

Challenge opportunity: Water sensors

global specialist in horticulture



Background:

Can you come up with ways to monitor the water quality in (near) real-time? Then be sure to apply to this Challenge!

In a circular water system the drain is reused. This means that an amount of nutrients, which were not taken up with the last irrigation cycle, are flowing back into the system. To prevent a high doses, or even a low doses, of a certain nutrient, one has to know what the water quality is of the drain. Currently, it takes a couple of days before the results from the laboratory are in. But that might be too late to prevent accumulation of a certain nutrient.

Therefore, there is great value in the real-time monitoring of nutrients. This does not only apply to the quality of the drain water, but it can also be applied to the rainwater basin. To learn how much chlorophyll is in the water, to measure the total dissolved solids, the EC and pH.

We are looking for a student/start-up or enthusiast who loves to 'tinker'. Someone with technical background in sensor design or a will to learn it. The WaterInnovator program assists with expert knowledge and assists you in the development and testing of the product

Research objectives:

- *In which part of the watersystem is real-time water monitoring an added value for the grower?*
- *Development of a prototype:*
 - *What are the prerequisites of these technologies?*
 - *Design and develop a first (and perhaps more) prototype.*

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