
Chinese rivers

Full of fertilizer chemicals | **p.8** |

Teacher of the Year

Meet the five nominees | **p.12** |

Out of Iraq

Interview with refugee student
Ammar | **p.24** |

RESOURCE [EN]

For students and employees of Wageningen UR

no 16 – 7 April 2016 – 10th Volume



**INTERNATIONAL
EDITION**


Compensating for emissions in the South

Not so simple | **p.14**

>> BOB + COACHING

Bob Jansen, assistant facility manager at Lumen/Gaia/Atlas and football teacher at De Bongerd

'A people-friendly touch'

Nothing beats playing football yourself, of course. But Bob Jansen, who played in the first division for his boyhood club SKV until he was 37, has been holding his own for years now as a coach and trainer too. Currently he is assistant at the Ede club Blauw Geel '55, and next season he will be head trainer for fourth division club SV Harskamp. A new chance to 'use a group's individual qualities to achieve things as a team'. With a people-friendly touch. 'It's important that people feel happy in the context where they pursue their hobby.'  RK / Photo: Guy Ackermans

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In the running for Best Building 2016



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Selecting students increasingly normal



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HOME

There are yellow removal boxes in our office again. *Resource* is moving again, for the third time in three years. This time, to Atlas. Moving is unsettling. You have to get used to new routines and nothing is in the right place. But little things can make you feel at home again: *Resource* covers on the wall, the wooden meeting table that soon gets covered with paperwork again.

So many things can be unsettling. Working in Den Helder or Lelystad in a building with 'Wageningen' in its name. Or working for an employer whose name changes four times, while your work stays the same (p.22). But these unsettling experiences pale into insignificance next to Ammar Rubayi's story (p.24). He fled from Iraq to the Netherlands and built up a new life here through a Wageningen degree. Rubayi discovered the other side of the coin. His move was like 'being reborn'. 'It's as though you are starting a new life.' Wise words. You don't have to pack all your ballast in that yellow box.

Rob Ramaker



>> [Why do female great tits have affairs? | p.9](#)

PLUS ULTRA IN RACE FOR BEST BUILDING 2016

- 80 percent of space is rented out
- Startlife and KLV Professional Match in business centre

Plus Ultra is in the running for the title of Best Building of 2016, the architects' branch organization BNA has announced. Plus Ultra is the shared facility for start-up and growing knowledge-intensive companies on the campus. It was designed by Wiegerinck bureau from Arnhem, which designed Helix too.

'I think it's fantastic that we've been nominated,' responds Chiel van Dijen of real estate developer Kadans Science Partner, enthusiastically. 'This confirms that we did make a few good decisions.' Plus Ultra and seven other buildings were selected from 125 entries. The jury will announce the winning building on 19 May. Be-

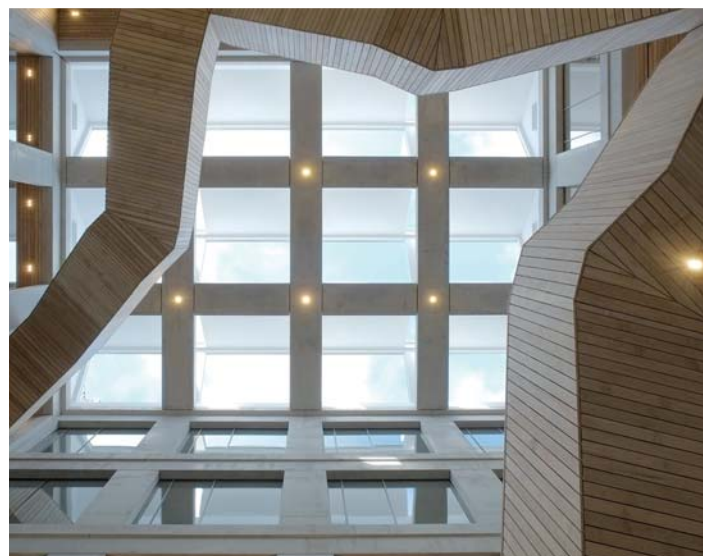


PHOTO: KIM ZWART'S EN MARLOS VERHOEVEN

sides the jury's choice there is also a public prize, with voting on www.gebouwvanhetjaar.nl

Meanwhile Plus Ultra is filling up slowly but surely. Eighty percent of the space has been allocated, according to Van Dijen. Twelve

names were announced earlier, most of them companies moving from elsewhere on the Wageningen campus. The same goes for the next 12 companies to move in.

Among the latest to join are familiar names such as KLV Profes-

sional Match and Startlife, now housed in Triton. Wageningen University spinoffs Tyker Technology (GPS-driven machines), Surfix (chemical surface coatings) and Kryt (e-learning in the lab) are moving in from elsewhere in Wageningen too. From Bennekom comes IPSS Engineering (chemical processing equipment).

DIBcoop (development of sustainable business plans) is moving to the campus from Business and Science Park Wageningen, Schothorst Feed Research (development of animal feeds) from Lelystad and the Qing group (machinery) from Arnhem. The biggest fish Kadans has caught will be announced on Friday 8 April, says Van Dijen. With these new companies the technical spaces on the ground floor will be fully occupied. The remaining 20 percent of the building should be occupied by the end of the year.

■ RK

STUDENT COUNCIL LOSES DISPUTE ON BOARD GRANT

- Executive board allowed to implement plans
- 320 per month instead of 370

The Dutch national arbitration board came down on the side of the university's board in the discussion about the FOS allowance for students serving on student organization boards. This means that students serving on boards will now receive a grant of 320 euros per month, rather than the 370 euros the Student Council had asked for. And there will be no public transport allowance for second-year Social Sciences Master's students.

In its verdict, published last week, the arbitration board says it has given the boards of institutions the right to 'decide on the disputed elements of the Student

Financial Support Fund'. According to executive board spokesperson Simon Vink, this means 'no more and no less' than that the university can implement its decision – unless the Student Council appeals.

The Student Council is disappointed. 'We invested a lot of energy in this, so this is not the ideal result,' says council member Marieke Kil (VeSte).

The board agrees with us that a public transport allowance for Social Sciences Master's students would be reasonable. As for the size of the board grant, they thought the university's arguments were more reasonable.' In the end this led to overall agreement with the board's plans, including those regarding public transport. 'We are now going to discuss among ourselves and with our lawyer how to respond to this verdict.' ■ LvdN



PHOTO: REMO WORMMEESTER

VISIT BY MEPS

Ten members of the European Parliament from Greece, Poland, Italy, France, Spain and the Netherlands visited Wageningen UR on 30 March. They dined with the Wageningen Ambassadors and the executive board. The visit formed part of a 3-day tour of the Netherlands. 'Our country is a frontrunner in the EU,' says co-organizer and MEP Jan Huitema (VVD). 'We are showing our innovative companies and talking about the latest developments in the fields of agriculture, environment and nutrition, so as to see whether European legislation is still up to date.' ■ AS

'KEEP DEVELOPING THE TOP SECTORS'

- **Hearing in parliament**
- **'No change of policy, just more funding'**

The top sectors should stay: there is no need for the government to come up with a new innovation policy. What is needed is additional government funding for new cross-sectoral themes such as Biobased Economy, ICT and Urban Sustainable Delta. This was the advice the Economic Affairs Parliamentary Com-

mittee received on Friday 1 April.

During a parliamentary hearing the directors of top sectors and knowledge organizations gave their assessment of current Dutch knowledge and innovation policy. Their unanimous advice was: go on building on the top sectors. They did have a wish list, however. In recent years 12 million euros of private research funding has not been honoured by the Agri & Food and the Horticulture top sectors because the government could not of-

fer co-financing, explained director Loek Hermans. He asked for more money and fewer regulations for the approval process for research projects.

Erik van Seventer of Food & Biobased Research advised the lower house of parliament to increase the budget for research and innovation and use it in a focussed fashion. 'Try looking ahead 30 or 40 years. Target the problems of the future and on that basis, formulate a programme for 100 percent sustainable energy.' **AS**

© COLUMN | KEEES

Joy

State secretary Martijn van Dam was quoted in the paper recently as saying that animals are sensitive beings and should be treated as such. It made me think of a conversation I once had with a goat farmer.

I asked him, 'Why do you keep goats?'

Farmer: 'The goats give me milk and meat, but above all they bring me joy.'

Me: 'Joy? Do you mean a tasty goat's cheese?'

Farmer: 'No, they give me a lot more than that! For example I once had a group of young people with special needs on my farm. One of them was blind and autistic. They were just walking through the barn between the goats lying in the straw when I noticed that the autistic lad was ill at ease. It got worse until he suddenly flipped. He fell on the ground, rolled around in the manure and shouted incoherently. The goats jumped up in shock and scrambled away in all directions to watch from a safe distance. The boy's carers observed him for a moment and wanted to go into action.'

But they didn't have to, continued the goat farmer.

'An old goat walked straight up to the squirming boy, stood next to him and bleated invitingly. The boy heard it and felt the goat pushing against his body. He quietened down and reached out carefully towards the animal's front leg, moved his hand up towards its head and scratched the goat under her chin. The goat bleated happily, pushed her nose against his head and nibbled at his ear as only goats can. The boy started laughing and in no time he had been 'reset'. He stood up and walked around for the rest of their stay with a smile on his face and the goat trailing him.'

The farmer concluded: 'Goats bring me joy.' Could this be what Martijn van Dam had in mind when he talked about 'sensitive animals'? **B**

Kees van Veluw (57) teaches Permaculture and is active in organic agriculture networks. His vision stems from his work with African farmers, his networks with Dutch farmers, his family life with his wife, three sons, dog and chickens.



in brief

>> IMARES YERSEKE Funding arranged

Funding has been arranged for the Regional station of Imares in Yerseke, in Zeeland. Reimerswaal municipal council signed an agreement with Imares today. Imares will receive a subsidy of 100,000 euros for the coming five years, reports director Martin Scholten. Imares will retain a slimmed-down station with 14 staff in Zeeland for research on the shellfish sector. The ministry of Economic Affairs will invest about half a million euros per year over the next five years, for statutory research assignments in Zeeland. Five organizations from the shellfish and fisheries sector will also contribute half a million euros a year between them in this five-year period. The regional station will continue to do delta research for the national water board (under the ministry of Infrastructure and Environment) as well. **AS**

>> TO ATLAS

CS, Resource and online editors

Communication Services (CS), the editors of the Wageningen UR website and the editors of Resource will all be moving to the Atlas building on the Wageningen campus on Friday 8 April. The move involves 30 to 40 staff members who currently work in Nexus. In Atlas they will work on the ground floor alongside the department of Publicity and recruitment. Atlas was refurbished earlier this year to make it 'more hospitable and transparent'. Entrance gates were removed, for instance. After the move, student housing provider Idealis will relocate to Nexus. **RR**



>> KEURINGSDIENST Farmhouse cheese

The team of a Dutch television programme about food quality Keuringsdienst van Waarde filmed an episode about cheese on campus on 31 March. The programme makers want to find out whether farmhouse cheese really is what it claims to be. Food safety institute Rikilt has developed a test which can reveal whether cheese is made of raw milk, a criteria for the name 'farmhouse cheese'. If the milk has been heated to over 40 degrees, it does not qualify as raw. Researcher Saskia van Ruth took the camera crew into the lab with her. The programme will be broadcast on 21 April.

KG

**Brexit bad news for British farmers.
Read about it on resource-online.nl**

PROPOSAL FOR PILOT EVENING CLASSES

- Trial in periods 1 and 2
- Lectures until nine o'clock

A proposal has been drawn up for the previously announced trial with classes during evening hours. A proposal by a working party plans for some students to be in class from 6.30 to 9 pm in the first two periods of next academic year.

If the pilot goes ahead – something the executive board will decide on in May – it will affect several programmes, both Bachelor's and Master's. Courses with big groups will be moved to Monday evenings. PC practicals are one of the bottlenecks, as is group work. In total between 14 and 22 courses will be involved in the pilot, but it is not yet known which they are. The decision will be partly determined by the peak times for timetabling and wifi usage.

Once the pilot has been evaluated, a decision will be made in 2017 as to whether to make evening lectures standard from the academic year of 2017-2018. **LDN**

What does the Student Council think of this?

Read about it on resource-online.nl.

'WAGENINGEN' CHEESE WINS PRIZE

- Prizewinning dairy farmers works with researcher
- Innovative cheese with edible rind

Organic dairy farm De Groote Voort in Lunteren was pronounced Agricultural Business of 2016 on 31 March. The company makes special cheese using Wageningen scientific knowledge. Kasper Hettinga of Food Quality and Design collaborates with the innovative dairy farmer.

The Remeker cheese produced by the farm has an edible rind of milkfat and moulds. 'On the inside it's Gouda cheese, but on the outside it looks like a French blue cheese,' says Hettinga. He and some of his students are doing research on the development of fungi and bacteria in the cheese. Four Wageningen students have already graduated with theses on this topic.

'In a normal cheese, bacteria are added to the milk,' explains Hettinga. 'During the ripening process, the bacteria convert lactose, fat and protein into aromas. To avoid getting mould on the cheese, it is covered with plastic. But farmer Van de Voort uses a completely natural process. To avoid killing the bacteria, he does not heat the milk but adds more bacteria and waits for fungi to start growing on the rind. It goes wrong occasionally, and if the wrong fungus or bacterium starts growing he has to throw out the cheese.'

Van de Voort got a subsidy a few years ago to enable him to get a fuller grasp of the natural



Dairy farmer Van de Voort with his Jersey cows.

ripening process. He built a new ripening room and brought Hettinga in to help. Hettinga and his students studied the development of the bacteria, fungi and aroma substances in the cheese in the new ripening room at 90 percent humidity. That was a success. 'The bacteria and fungi grow faster with greater humidity, but the growth levels out after a few months. We now have a better understanding of the dynamics of the bacteria and fungi as the cheese is ripening.'

Van de Voort is an unusual farmer, says Hettinga. He has about 90 Jersey cows, which produce relatively little milk, but their milk is exceptionally high in fats and proteins. He gives the cows special feed and sells his cheese to delicatessens and restaurants for 30 euros per kilo. 'This makes his profit per kilo of milk five times higher than the average price of milk.' **AS**

PHOTO: KAASSPECIALZAAK.BLOGSPOT.NL

DIZI HEIGHTS AT ONE WORLD WEEK

On Saturday 2 April, visitors to the 'bblthk', Wageningen's public library, could acquaint themselves – whether by accident or design – with the sound of Chinese musical instruments such as the dizi (the bamboo flute), the er-hu and the pipa. Dizi player Ji-er Wang (on the photo) and fellow-members of music group SweetPotato played a mix of classical Chinese music and arrangements of folk songs. Exotic sounds were accompanied by exotic aromas, as Nepalese students and PhD researchers served food from their country. The cultural afternoon was part of One World Week. **LdK**



PHOTO: SVEN MENSCH

BUS LANE IS IN THE WAY

- In alterations to Mansholtlaan
- Planned tunnel ramp takes up too much room

To tackle the Mansholtlaan traffic jams, the final section between Bennekom and the Nijenoord Allee will be widened to two lanes in either direction. In addition, there will be a tunnel ramp at the campus entrance for through traffic. But that tunnel ramp clashes with the campus bus lane, as became clear last week when the plans were presented in the Junushoff.

The problem has to do with the traffic speed on the Mansholtlaan of 80 kilometres per hour. The stipulated tunnel ramp for such a road would only rise back to ground level again after the junction with the bus lane. A shorter tunnel ramp with a steeper slope would be too

dangerous while a lower maximum speed would not be appropriate for the road layout, says the provincial authority.

One solution is to move the bus lane at Atlas. Buses would then enter the campus via the roundabout, take an immediate left in front of Atlas and proceed along the existing route. But Wageningen UR is not interested in this option as work is currently underway to create a wetland nature garden in the Atlas grounds. Another alternative is to replace the roundabout with traffic lights, with a tunnel



nel on the south side for cyclists. But this new route would also take up a large part of the nature garden.

Widening Nijenoord Allee will

also produce problems. It turns out that there is not enough room for the planned bike tunnels near the Hoevestein and Dijkgraaf student flats. **RK**

INNOVATION PAYS OFF FOR KOTTER FISHERIES



Why all that attention?

'The main reason is that it was positive news, I think. In 2008 the Kotter fisheries were still running at a loss due to high fuel prices and low fish prices. Last year the fishers made a profit thanks to energy-saving fishing techniques, a low fuel price and higher prices for the main fish species – sole and plaice. That good result was news.'

Environmental performance has improved too.

'Yes, CO₂ emissions in Kotter fisheries – a hot item – have dropped by about 65 per cent in the last 20 years. So the results are going down well with environmental organizations as well.'

What was the main reason for the improvement?

'Innovation. Nearly all the Kotter fishers used to use the bottom trawler, which was dragged along the sea floor, mainly to catch flatfish. The bottom trawler uses three or four times as much fuel as the efficient alternative, electric pulse fishing. About 80 of the 280 Kotters have now switched to the pulse technique. That switch leads to lower costs and CO₂ emissions per kilo of fish.' **AS**

Who? Mike Turenhout, researcher at the LEI
What? Presented positive figures on Kotter fisheries
Where? Most daily newspapers, Omroep Flevoland (a regional broadcasting company) and Twitter

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RESOURCE
For students and employees of Wageningen UR

SAND EXCAVATION PIT SOON TEEMING WITH LIFE

- **Surprisingly rapid recovery after deep sand excavations**
- **PhD candidate draws up rules**

Soil life in the North Sea recovers very rapidly after deep sand excavations, as PhD candidate Maarten de Jong discovered to his surprise. He has drawn up 'design rules' for future projects.

Every year, large amounts of sand are excavated in the North Sea for construction projects and coastal replenishment. Usually, trailing suction hopper dredgers remove a layer of sand two metres thick. However 20 metres of sand was removed from a single site for the construction of Maasvlakte 2, resulting in a deep pit.

De Jong, who works at Imares, investigated the ecological effects of this intervention. He counted the number of soil fish and soil creatures living in and on the sea bed, such as sea urchins, worms and shellfish. His research was part of the 'Building with Nature' knowledge and innovation programme.

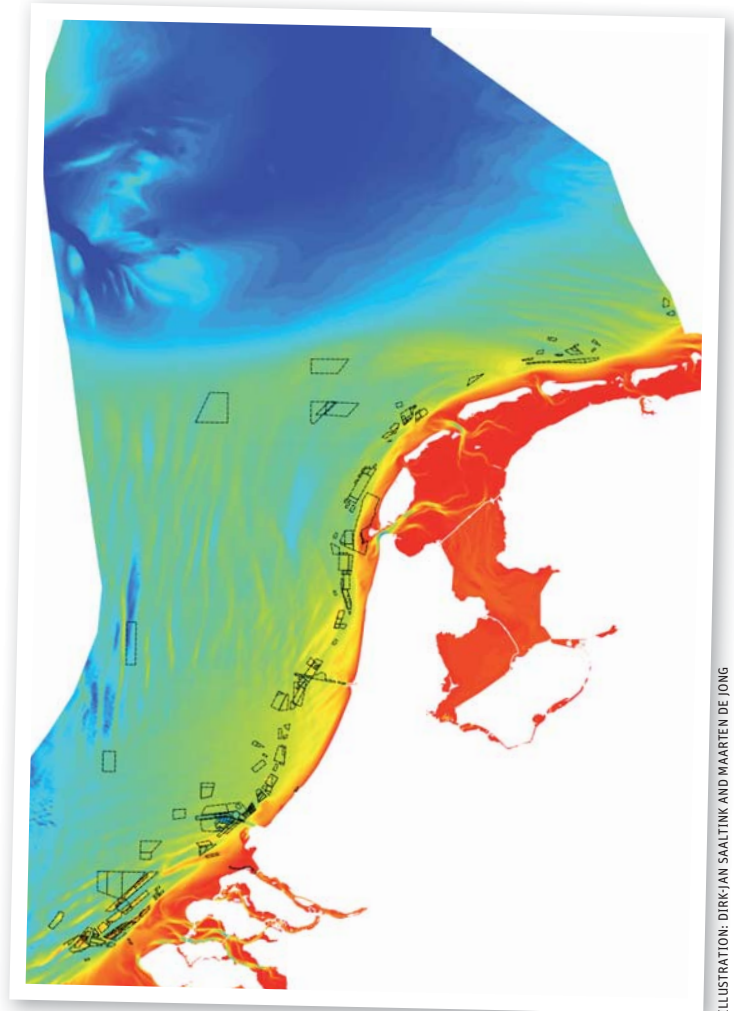
There was far more life in the sand excavation pit than De Jong had expected. Two years after the ex-

cavation work, the biomass of the soil life had increased by a factor of 7 to 12, while the biomass of soil fish — especially plaice — had increased by a factor of 20.

De Jong has therefore found mainly positive ecological effects from the deep sand excavation in the North Sea but he does not want to commit himself yet. 'You need to investigate this over a longer period. For instance, it's possible that an anaerobic atmosphere develops in the bed of the pit, which would have an adverse effect on soil life.' What is more, the full ecological recovery of such a deep sand pit takes decades whereas the surface excavation pits that are only two metres deep recover in four to six years.

De Jong recommends also examining the ecological effects of surface and intermediate pits in order to be able to weigh up the options properly. He has also drawn up 'design rules' giving the depth to which sand can be excavated in the future in the North Sea bed. That varies per location and depends on the water flow rate.

Maarten de Jong will defend his thesis on 8 April. His supervisor is Han Lindeboom, professor of Marine Ecology. **AS**



Existing sand excavation sites in the North Sea.

ILLUSTRATION: DIRK JAN SAALTINK AND MAARTEN DE JONG

CHINESE RIVERS FULL OF PHOSPHATE AND NITROGEN

- **Effect of agricultural policy**
- **Livestock sector severed from crop farming**

Chinese rivers contain alarming quantities of nitrogen and phosphate thanks to Chinese agricultural policy, writes PhD candidate Maryna Stokol of Environmental Systems Analysis and her Chinese and Wageningen colleagues in the journal *Environmental Research Letters*.

Changes to Chinese agriculture in the past few decades have led to a livestock sector which is disconnected from crop production, ob-

serve the researchers. This means that manure produced on livestock farms does not get used to improve the fertility of arable farmland. In 2000 between 30 and 70 percent of all animal manure was dumped in rivers, states Stokol. By comparison, this figure was 5 percent in 1970. Meanwhile the number of livestock animals in China has doubled in those 30 years.

The result of these agricultural developments is that the concentration of nitrogen and phosphate in Chinese rivers has gone up by a factor of between 2 and 45 in the space of 30 years. Although there is growing concern about this environmental pollution in China,

the dumping of manure straight into the rivers could increase in the coming years, warns Stokol. She advises the Chinese govern-

ment to take action promptly to recycle more manure from livestock in horticulture and agriculture. **AS**



NEW LIGHT ON SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR OF FEMALE GREAT TIT

- **New large-scale field study by Behavioural Ecology**
- **Female mate selection behaviour only known from lab**

Why are female great tits frequently unfaithful? Do they go looking for the males or is it the other way around? A large-scale study within the Behavioural Ecology chair group aims to answer these questions. The study was launched last week.

Professor Marc Naguib and colleagues from the NIOO have been studying the behaviour of great tits for many years. Usually the males have been at the centre of attention but the new study focuses on the females. Everything we know so far about their sexual selection behaviour has been learned in the lab, says Naguib. 'We know which song attracts females and which colours they like, but we know nothing about their actual selection behaviour in the field. Their options are limited in the lab: it could be that the man of their dreams just isn't there. Do females stick with the first partner who comes along, or do they go looking? And what is the role of song and of personality in this?

Great tits are given to extramarital shopping around. In about one quarter of the nests at least one of the young has a different father than the mother's steady partner. This is known from genetic analysis of the young by Kees van Oers of the NIOO. How that choice by the female comes about is what the new study aims to shed light on. Swiss researcher Nina Bircher at the NWO is going to study this.

In the Westerheide forest near Arnhem, a permanent research location for Naguib and the NIOO, 80 great tits have been fitted with transmitters. More than 130 nesting boxes have been hung up around the woods with receivers that register the birds' spatial behaviour. The song of the male is recorded by programmed song recorders.

The receivers make it possible to identify precisely which territories – and therefore which males – the females frequent. A genetic analysis of the young can then determine whether these visits were fruitful. Linking these data to the personality tests done by the NIOO on the great tits can lead to interesting conclusions about the sexual preferences of female great tits and the functioning of animal populations. **© RK**



PHOTO: MARC NAGUIB

One of the 80 great tits which researcher Nina Bircher and her colleagues have fitted with a transmitter.

VISION <<

'Applaud salt reduction'

Salt levels in food are going down slightly right across the board, reports the Dutch Food and Consumer Safety Authority (NVWA). Not everyone is moving in the right direction, though, for example, sauces, for example, contain more salt than they used to and there are big differences within product categories too. Charon Zondervan, programme leader at Healthy & delicious goods, argues for publicizing products' test results.'



How do big differences arise within product groups?

'Take frozen pizzas as an example. Some of them are produced for Dutch supermarkets which have signed the agreement to cut down on salt. But meanwhile there are pizzas from big foreign companies on the market as well. These recipes are not adapted to Dutch tastes, agreements etcetera, only to the regulations. But you can't just blame everything on that of course. Agreements between government and industry are often made with branch organizations, and not all companies belong to those. Relatively large amounts of salt are often used in traditional products, especially. But one wonders how terrible that is.'

What do you mean?

'The aim is to get the Dutch to eat less salt. But the NVWA only publicizes whether products contain more or less salt than they used to, not how popular they are. If the NVWA named the products, you could estimate their effect on overall salt consumption.'

And you think that's a good idea?

'Yes. Shaming, but more importantly 'faming' incentivizes companies to cut down on salt. Companies that are doing well deserve applause. Because please note: we are not talking about regulations here but voluntary agreements. Companies take risks when they adapt their recipes. It is more expensive: salt costs next to nothing, they have to change their labels and do research, and consumers might not like their new products as much.'

So it is very hard to cut down on salt?

'Cutting down by 10 percent is easy enough. You can do that quietly without anyone noticing. At 20 to 30 percent it becomes more of a challenge. Then you have to start giving thought to product design and marketing. Do you want to market it as a reduced-salt product, for instance?' **© RR**

BERENDSE ADVOCATES NATURE NETWORKS

Nature is constantly changing and this should be taken into account far more in nature policy, says Frank Berendse, who is retiring as professor of Nature Conservation and Plant Ecology. He advocates a dual system in the Dutch countryside: areas where agriculture takes priority and others that prioritize nature.

On your retirement last week, you were appointed Officer in the Order of Orange-Nassau. A surprise?

'Yes, absolutely. I looked to see who else had got this and the list includes Jac. P. Thijssse, the founder of nature conservation in the Netherlands. I'm very proud of this.'

In your farewell lecture, you compare the dynamism of nature with the inertia of nature policy. Are we too attached to the status quo?

'In terms of botany, the Netherlands looks completely different now to the 1970s, when I started to look at wild plants. On the one hand there are the changes in the landscape due to demographic and economic developments, while on the other hand you have the dynamism of the species and the constant shifts in their habitats. These are the result of climate change but numerous other changes can also cause a species to spread or decline. We sometimes get obsessive in our efforts to conserve certain species, but we will

have to accept that things can change. Wild plants and animals go and live where they want.'

Does that mean we should do nothing?

'Not at all! We should make sure that there are the right preconditions for nature. Most important of all is that the area should be big enough. There are many places in the Netherlands where nature and agriculture are found in very close proximity. That is why I am advocating a system of Regional Nature Networks. In these RNNs, nature should not be subjected to the negative effects of farming caused by water management, fertilization and pesticides. The money for agricultural nature management should be concentrated in those areas. You can also invest there in organic farming and small-scale recreation. Then you can have other areas that are dedicated to agriculture.'



PHOTO: GUY ACKERMANS

Frank Berendse in 2010. The professor, who is now retiring, wants areas to be designated where nature takes priority.

How big should such a Regional Nature Network be?

'Big enough to keep at bay the negative effects of farming outside the network. I'm thinking in the order of 100 to 200 square kilometres.'

What does that mean for the Netherlands?

'The great biologist Edward Wilson, the man who came up with the concept of biodiversity, calcu-

lates in *Half Earth*, the book he recently published, that half the planet needs to remain undamaged for 80 percent of all species to have a future. That is a thought that we can't dismiss as naive. The essential question is: how many square kilometres are needed to give the various kinds of nature in this country a genuine future? In Wageningen we should be doing everything we can to answer that question.' **RK**

CHOCOLATE'S AROMA PROFILE GIVES AWAY ITS ORIGIN

- **Pattern of volatile substances traceable to region**
- **Method usable in fraud investigations**

The pattern of volatile substances in chocolate reveals information about the species of cocoa bean used and the beans' geographical origin. This 'analytical fingerprint' could be used in future to identify fraud cases. Rikilt PhD researcher Valentina Acierno and her colleagues pub-

lished these results in *Food Research International*.

Acierno analysed 90 different kinds of dark chocolate available in Dutch shops. The chocolate bars were from eight different brands, and the bean species varied – criollo, forastero or trinitario – as did their origins. The researcher ground up the chocolate bars, put them into airtight jars, waited a while and then put air from the jars through the mass spectrometer. For each type of chocolate this produced a pattern of 136 peaks, with each peak

representing a certain aromatic substance. Acierno then used statistical techniques to expose differences and similarities in the enormous quantity of mass spectrometer data she had obtained. This enabled her to trace the aroma pattern of the chocolate to its botanical and geographical origins.

According to professor of Food Authenticity Saskia van Ruth, one of the co-authors of the publication, this is a promising approach for future authenticity research. Price differentiation based on bean species

or origins can make fraud with chocolate tempting. 'The criollo is the king of the cocoa beans and fetches a higher price. And its geographical origin is seen as carrying added value too.' Currently however, there is no validated process ready for regulatory organizations such as the Dutch Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority. Van Ruth: 'If you want to use this as a law enforcement method you must first expand your database because it has to be able to stand up in court.' **AJ**

Wageningen Campus is gradually turning into a theme park, and the 'Conscious choice' logo is useless as a guide to healthy supermarket food, say the voices of protest in Wageningen. Got an opinion too? Respond on resource-online.nl or email resource@wur.nl.

REACTIONS ON...



RESOURCE-ONLINE.NL

'TICKED OFF'

Kees de Graaf, who is not just a Wageningen professor but also the chair of the scientific committee for the 'Conscious Choice' logo, is shocked by the Dutch Consumer Association's campaign to get rid of the little tick (or check) symbol which stands for a 'healthier option'. In a comment on the Resource site he admits that the nutrition logo does have 'two Achilles heels' but is sorry to see it being 'so negatively framed'.

There is more support for the Consumer Association than for De Graaf. 'The most serious objection is that the ticks are confusing,' writes **close**. 'What on earth do they mean by "Healthier option within this product group"? **Bas Hofland** sees the tick as 'quite a scandalous system', which recommends diet coke – 'Downright bad. A marketing system with backing from scientists. Now *that* is framing.' **Maarten B.** goes so far as to get personal, expressing the assumption that 'this professor is making too much money out of this and doesn't want to lose his job on the side.'

NAUGHTY GEOCACHER

Crafty Resource reporter **Roelof Kleis** spotted the wooden doll near Atlas which geocachers had to track down with the help of their GPS. 'Keep it to yourself.'

Geocacher isn't happy with the giveaway: 'Oh yeah, nice spoiler for the people who hadn't solved it yet,...' **Concerned student** is unhappy about the report for a totally different reason. 'Seeing that the WUR is changing its name any-

way, why don't we change it right away to Wageningen Theme Park and Student Paradise, in line with the doll, the WUR-wolf mascot, the Quid-ditch Experience and the new baby blue signboards? Everything points towards the campus turning into a theme park rather than a university. Where can we buy the carpark coupons?'



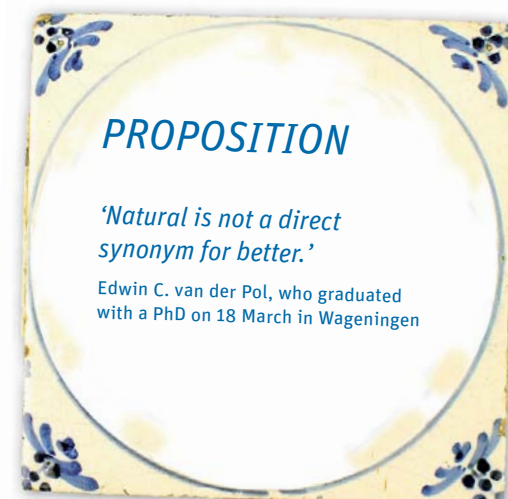
WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Blogger **Jan-Willem Kortlever** gets on his high horse again to respond to the new branding policy of 'Wageningen University & Research': 'It seems as though Wageningen UR has landed in an identity crisis. First the introduction of mascots, a weird games app, signboard in Walibi colours, MOOC marketing and the paving over of grassy fields on the campus, and now we get a complete change of name.'

'Hats off for the summary of all the irritations, which I think are shared by many students,' writes **student**. 'The problem with managers is that when everything is running smoothly, they feel superfluous,' explains **Managementonderlaag**. 'As soon as someone notices you are superfluous, you are out. So an insignificant manager has to keep his own job by coming up with innovative ideas.' **Gerben** thinks it's all negative grumbling. 'I can't remember when I last heard you being enthusiastic about any-

thing,' he tells **Jan-Willem**. 'Pity you never try to see the other person's point of view.' The blogger doesn't take this lying down. 'Just recently I was positive about the drone at Foundation Day.' **LdK**

See too the feature *IMO* on p. 22.



AND THE NOMINEES ARE...

According to Wageningen students, these are the five teachers who give the most inspiring lessons and practicals. We will find out on 21 April which of the five gets the Teacher of the Year Award 2016. 'And the winner is...'

text Linda van der Nat *photos* Daniel Dreadson

PERFECTION

Plant cell biology teacher **André van Lammeren**, who won the prize in 2010 and has been nominated several times, is 'amazed' by his nomination. The popular lecturer retired recently and is no longer actively teaching but he is still involved with a number of courses. The Teacher of the Year jury praises Van Lammeren for his enthusiasm. What is more, he has managed to perfect his course materials thanks to his years of experience. 'We are proud that he has not only reached such a high standard but has also managed to maintain this standard for years, right up to the end.'



EXCELLENT TEACHER

Ute Sass-Klaassen, university lecturer in Forest Ecology and Forest Management, has been nominated for the Teacher of the Year Award several times in the past but has not yet been able to win the prize. 'I find it a great honour to be called one of the five best teachers.' She emphasizes that teaching is a question of teamwork. 'There isn't just one kind of teaching that's excellent — it's actually very diverse. It would be fantastic to have a team voted Teacher of the Year.' The jury finds Ute Sass-Klaassen an excellent teacher because she knows exactly how to key into the way students see things. She knows her students well and uses a different approach for each individual person.



INNOVATIVE IDEAS

University lecturer **Maria Forlenza**, who works in the Cell Biology & Immunology group, was nominated for the Teacher of the Year Award last year for the first time. She had been on the longlist before then too. 'It's always an honour, I'm very pleased with this.' She praises her group of students, who were very good this year. 'I had a really good course, so I had secretly been hoping a little for this.' The jury calls Maria Forlenza a 'passionate teacher with innovative ideas who just finds it boring that the university closes at five pm'. In the contact with her students she starts off strict but becomes more and more friendly towards the end.

THE EXTRA MILE

University lecturer in Hydrogeology **Roel Dijkma** is thrilled with his nomination. 'This is a big compliment.' Dijkma had never been nominated before although he had regularly been on the longlist. 'I like telling stories that make students say: that is really relevant.' He tries to prevent the teaching from becoming a routine. According to the Teacher of the Year jury, Dijkma's nomination is thanks to his personal, natural style of teaching in which he is able to talk enthusiastically even about less interesting topics. What is more, he is willing to go the extra mile for all his students. 'He cares about his students, and not just when it comes to teaching.'



GREAT AT MAKING CONNECTIONS

Noëlle Aarts, professor of Strategic Communication, was chosen as Teacher of the Year last year. She says that it would feel really special if she were to win the award again. 'If as a teacher you are nominated or win the award repeatedly, that says something about how stable your quality is. Many teachers are insecure and find teaching quite nerve-racking. You like to teach and you give your all every day. Then a prize like this says you are doing a good job.' The jury says that Noëlle Aarts is great at making connections. 'She has clear ideas about teaching and combines that with a strong focus on her students' personal development.'



Resource surprises the nominees.
See the clips at resource-online.nl.

Can REDD+ still be revived?

Capturing CO₂ in tropical forests with financing from wealthy western countries. The idea at the heart of the REDD+ initiative is that simple. But ten years after it was launched, the idea is still on the drawing board. And one wonders whether it will ever leave it.

text Roelof Kleis

One fifth of global emissions of CO₂ are caused by deforestation, which makes it a problem worth addressing. So in 2005 the United Nations launched REDD, which stand for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation. The aim of REDD is to stimulate developing countries to reduce their emissions, with financing from industrialized countries. The original goal was simply to control deforestation, but five years ago carbon sequestration by planting new forest was added as a goal – this is the plus sign in REDD+.

REDD+ was hailed as a magic bullet. Not only did it tackle climate change, but it would also benefit nature. And that without costing developing countries a cent. But that was too good to be true. REDD became REDD+, which complicated matters. And there is more to good forest management than carbon storage, said the critics. That storage must not be done at the expense of the biodiversity of the forest or of the socio-economic development of the local population, says personal professor of the Politics of Environmental Knowledge Esther Turnhout. Moreover, the discussions extended to many other kinds of land use which also play an important role in CO₂ emissions. Turnhout: 'Agriculture, for instance, is a major source of CO₂ emissions. But there are also forms of agriculture which capture carbon. That land use should qualify for REDD+ compensation too.'

CARBONIZATION

In short, REDD+ became more and more complicated as the discussion continued. 'The idea is simple but the implementation is difficult,' acknowledges Marjanneke Vijge. 'Originally it was only going to be about carbon: REDD was a straightforward compensation system for emissions. But it has been more than that for a long time now. REDD+ is not just a single mechanism; there are very many forms of REDD+, and many ideas about where it is heading to.' Vijge conducted a study of what she called the carbonization of forest management. 'What I mean by that is the framing of forests in terms of climate change. Forest as a carbon sink. That doesn't automatically have to be one-dimensional, but if you only look at this aspect, it leads to a simplification of the policy.'

Vijge researched whether REDD+ really does lead to this kind of simplification. She found that there was no unequivocal answer to this question. 'At the global level there is a great focus on measuring carbon storage, and the debate is largely technical. But at the national level the focus is much more on what are called non-carbon goals: biodiversity, local livelihoods, sustainable development and the participation of the local population.'

Vijge's finding is based partly on policy documents about REDD+ from eight countries. She has her doubts about these. 'It's all just rhetoric up to now. If you look at what countries have done to monitor those non-carbon impacts, you can see that it lags far behind the monitoring of carbon targets.'

REDD+ depends on the quality of the monitoring. Turnhout: 'Only if a developing country can convincingly prove that it has reduced emissions, does it qualify for financial com-

'The strong focus on financing through emissions rights is a mistake'

penation.' Wageningen plays a prominent role in the development of the measuring system. But measuring it is not the issue, is the firm conviction of professor of Geo-information science and Remote Sensing Martin Herold. 'The availability of instruments for measuring carbon storage and collecting data is not the limiting factor for REDD+. Our knowledge of forests and the changes taking place in them has grown tremendously in recent years. Of course there are still parts of the world where there is less of that knowledge, but the capacity of those countries to measure carbon has improved a lot. Technology is not the limiting factor.'

EMISSIONS MARKET


The real Achilles heel of REDD+ is its financing, which still hasn't got off the ground. Should rich countries put money into a fund from which emissions cutbacks are paid for, or

should a system of emissions trading be set up? In the latter case, developing countries sell the tons of CO₂ they have 'saved' as emissions rights to western countries or companies, which are then allowed to emit more CO₂.

'There are doubts as to whether this kind of market will be set up,' says Vijge. 'REDD+ takes so many different forms that it makes financing complicated.' Professor Turnhout is more categorical. 'There is not going to be a market of that kind. Developing countries have no faith in it. They have no wish at all for an international carbon trade between north and south. What is more, there is a lot of resistance to the idea of financial compensation, or the commercialization of forest and nature. The strong focus on financing through emissions rights is a mistake. REDD+ is a good idea at heart, but it has become too complicated. We are now on a path that can only lead to failure. On the other hand: the climate summit in Paris did not kill off REDD+.'

Herold emphasizes this too. He is much more optimistic. 'REDD+ came out of the Paris agreement strong. The importance of forest as a carbon sink has been made central to the mitigation of climate change. REDD+ plays a major role in that. REDD+ is linked to a development agenda and in that sense there is still life in it.' Herold prefers to see the class as half-full rather than as half-empty. 'The idea of REDD+ is still a success. REDD+ has changed people's mindsets. And that is what it is all about in the end: behavioural change. The discussion around REDD+ is much too carbonized – the focus is too much on carbon. What matters in the end is the human activity you aim to influence. The carbon is only a way of measuring that at the end of that chain.'

A BLESSING

The fact that REDD+ has become so all-encompassing may, in Herold's view, be a blessing in disguise. 'There is no simple solution to deforestation. 77 percent of the deforestation in the tropics is related to agriculture. So not all the solutions are to be found in the forest. We need to work towards integral solutions involving both agriculture and forests. In Wageningen we've got all the relevant disciplines together. We are Number One worldwide. You can be critical or you can be constructive. It's Wageningen's role to be constructive.' 



WAGENINGEN OLYMPICS

Notice the energy in that right leg, the flying ponytail, the intense expression on her face. It was no fault of Camilla De Toter – the Italian tricolour on her face – that her team didn't win the Wageningen Olympics. After this game of mat football with a megaball, team #petalosi came third. A total of 16 teams took part in the Olympics held on Friday 1 April in the Bongerd Sports Centre. Most teams represented a country but there was also a 'world' team and a refugee team. The Beunhaasjes from the Netherlands won, while the Thai team got the prize for the best outfit. 📷 LdK / photo: Sven Menschel

See the whole photo series
on resource-online.nl.

Selecting university students

Low grades or not very motivated? In that case more and more Dutch degree programmes are allowed to reject you. Selection by universities is no longer taboo, even for their 'own' students wanting to proceed to a Master's. Discriminatory, say critics, who prefer a lottery system.

text Bas Belleman (HOP) and Rob Ramaker

illustration Henk van Ruitenbeek



Meike Vernooij finished High School in 1996 with a grade average of 9.6, but she wasn't allowed to embark on the degree in medicine she was aiming at. She lost out in the lottery for places at medical school three times: a clear illustration of the disadvantages of the lottery system used in the Netherlands. The case was the subject of discussion countrywide, and in its wake came new selection options based on motivation and grades.

Since then far more selection procedures have been adopted, something that was pretty much taboo in the Netherlands before then. From 1999 degree programmes with an enrolment limit were allowed to select half their students, and from 2011 they were allowed to select them all. In the subsequent two years the number of prospective students going through selection procedures increased to 30 percent. Meanwhile, the lottery system was losing popularity: now it seems to be lotteries that are taboo, and from 2017, as education minister Bussemaker reiterated in parliament recently, they will be banned.

A certain amount of selection takes place in Wageningen too these days. In 2014, the Nutrition and Health programme introduced an enrolment cap and a selection procedure. High school students are ranked according to their grades for relevant subjects such as chemistry

and biology, and they are also tested on their motivation and knowledge. All students scoring 8 or above are automatically admitted. Two other programmes –

Biotechnology and Molecular Life Sciences – are considering bringing in an admissions ceiling along similar lines.

SADDER

Education managers, politicians and students themselves are starting to get used to the idea of selection. This represents quite a cultural shift, says historian of education Pieter Slaman. 'The case for the lottery system is an example of "collective" thinking, according to which it is sad if someone with a grade average of 7 doesn't get a

'If you select on the basis of interviews you run the risk of cultural selection'

chance. But nowadays we think it's even sadder if an excellent student misses out in the lottery. That is thinking along "individual" lines.

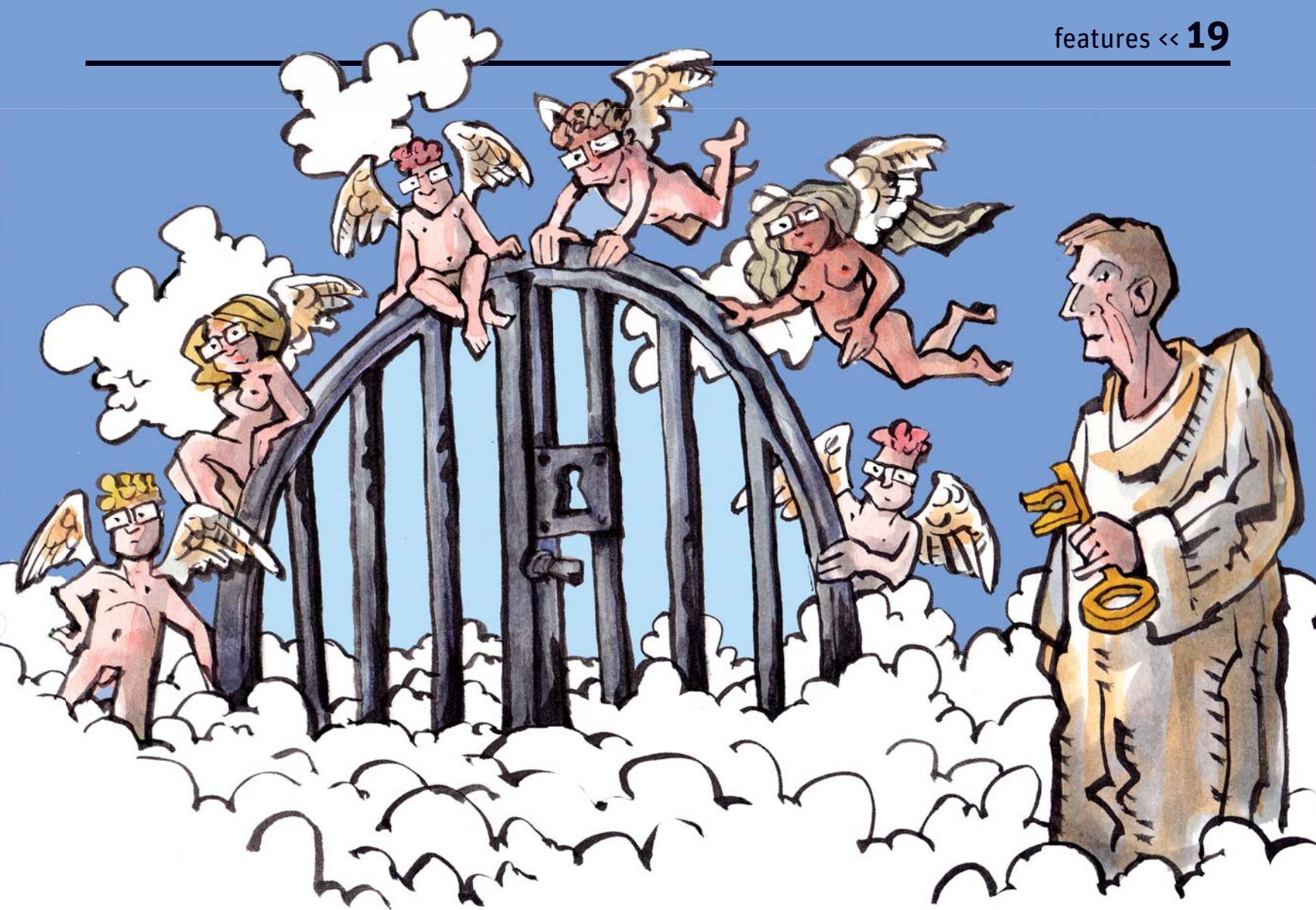
And not everyone embraces the change with enthusiasm. 'I am very worried about the trend towards selection,' says D66 MP Paul van Meenen. He feels that selection procedures are not transparent, so that a student cannot ascertain whether his or her rejection was justified. The

Wageningen Student Council too doubts the feasibility of a fair selection procedure. 'We have not yet found a scientifically-based foolproof assessment method,' says Marieke Kil of VeSte student party. The predictive value of examination grades has its limits. And motivation tests are of doubtful reliability.

COPYCAT EFFECT

For Master's degree programmes too, there is more and more scope for selection of students in the Netherlands. The tradition by which students had the automatic right to proceed from their Bachelor's to a related Master's was abandoned in 2014. The aim of this was to motivate students to give careful thought to their choice of Master's programme. Student organizations are not impressed by this and student parties from all around the country wrote to minister Bussemaker about it in January. The Wageningen Student Council was among the signatories. The student body sees the measure as a threat to the accessibility of higher education, given that it remains the norm in the Netherlands for students to pursue their studies to Master's level, with only a tiny minority getting jobs straight after their Bachelor's.

The student organizations are afraid of a copycat effect: once one university goes down this route, the others will follow. 'To put it crudely, universities are afraid of ending up as the sink,' says Kil. Wageningen is in a special position in



this respect, says Kil. Many Wageningen programmes are so unique that there is no competition. But that also creates a unique responsibility to make the Master's programmes accessible, especially to Wageningen's own Bachelor's graduates.

Wageningen University has no firm plans for more stringent selection for its Master's programmes. For the present only students from other institutions or abroad are assessed on the relevance of their first degree, and the level of their English. Wageningen's 'own' students can automatically proceed to a Master's, although the education institute, the OWI, is following the national discussion with interest.

DISADVANTAGED

Meanwhile, the first warnings are being heard. Selection turns out not to be a neutral process. Immigrants and male students hesitate to apply for selective degree programmes, noted the education inspectorate at the end of last year. This has led parliamentarian Van Meenen (D66) to campaign in favour of the familiar old lottery system. 'I do see the down sides of lotteries but whatever you say about it, it is totally fair and

unbiased.' He has even come up with a rhyming Dutch slogan ('Niet kloten maar loten') with the message: stop messing about, just draw lots. He is not getting much support in the House so far, but the Education inspectorate and the ministry of Education are looking into the possible undesirable effects of selection.

Education expert Slaman predicts that a more and more groups of young people are going to end up in disadvantaged positions in future. 'Take immigrant populations, for instance. If you select on the basis of interviews and personal contact, you always run the risk of cultural selection.'

Things turned out well in the end for star pupil Meike Vernooij. In 1999, a regulation for 'special cases' enabled her to start medical school after all. She now works as a radiologist at the Erasmus Medical Centre. **R**

**Want to follow the discussion
about selection procedures?
Follow the news on resource-online.nl.**

UNIVERSITY: PRIVILEGE OF THE ELITE

For many years there was no need to select students in the Netherlands. Until the 1960s the number of students applying to universities was limited. 'The Netherlands was a class society and a university degree was seen as rounding off the education that prepared you for membership of the upper classes,' says education historian Pieter Slaman. 'So in the nineteenth century, one of the things you learned as a student was horsemanship.' There was no question of working class children applying because university was beyond their means. With the democratization of higher education, student numbers rose rapidly in the 1960s and 70s. The lottery system was introduced for medical school in 1974, in order to control the rising numbers. So as not to disadvantage 'late bloomers', grades were not taken into consideration. Only from the 1990s were degree programmes gradually allowed to select on grades, talent and motivation.

More food, step by step

Technically, we should be able to go on feeding the growing world population by applying traditional plant-breeding methods, say professors Martin van Ittersum, Richard Visser and Phil Macnaghten. But in reality it is all a bit trickier than that. Used for ethical purposes, gene technology really can make a useful contribution.

text Albert Sikkema photo Freek van den Bergh



The world population will grow to 9 billion in the next few decades. And in many parts of the world people's diets are set to change: more meat, less plant-based food. In 2050 we shall therefore need 60 percent more food than we do now, according to calculations by the world agriculture organization FAO. Is that possible without gene technology?

Yes, in theory it is, responds Martin van Ittersum, professor at Plant Production Systems in Wageningen. He calculated the 'yield gap' – the difference between actual and poten-

tial agricultural production – for various regions of the world. So he knows whether there is scope for increasing production. In Africa, where the biggest population growth is expected, there is plenty of scope. 'In most African countries farmers are achieving 20 to 30 percent of the production level that would be possible with optimal crop management. By way of comparison: Dutch farmers operate at 80 percent. So there is plenty of scope for boosting agricultural production.'

Richard Visser, professor of Plant Breeding, agrees that we have the capacity to go on feeding the world, 'seeing the current level of production in many developing countries and the massive scale on which food gets wasted.' Crop breeding plays an important role in raising agricultural production. 'Fifty percent of the potential production increase can be achieved through plant breeding, and the other 50 percent through mechanization, for example, or the use of artificial fertilizer and better soil and water management. I expect breeding will continue to increase harvests, because we are gaining a better and better understanding of complex characteristics such as drought and salt tolerance, which make harvests more reliable.'

PAINFULLY SLOW

So it is feasible, if you just look at the physical conditions for agriculture. But it worries Martin van Ittersum that the actual production growth in many developing countries is painfully slow. 'It appears to be very difficult to get agricultural

development started in areas with low production rates. That's because you've got to change a lot of things at the same time.'

The first thing that strikes you in Africa, for instance, is the poor soil fertility. That can sometimes be improved with more artificial fertilizer, but sometimes there are systemic problems with the soil, such as a shortage of organic matter or high acidity. Then you need major levels of investment over many years if you want to improve the soil fertility, says Van Ittersum.

The next problem is the management of diseases and pests. This is something you can address with crop protection and plant breeding, says Van Ittersum. 'So you combine better seeds with soil management, sufficient nutrients, weeding, recycling of crop waste, and a system of crop rotation. This is actually the familiar system we use in the Netherlands, but you need to keep on improving on it.'

Socio-economic factors play a role in raising production too. Do farming families have enough land, knowledge, time and machinery at their disposal? Van Ittersum: 'Many farming families in Africa have less than one hectare of land. That is not enough to get an income out of it and to invest in agricultural development at the same time. And then we still have the agricultural infrastructure, with its markets, prices, politics and economic limitations.'

SOCIAL ISSUES

'There's the rub,' says Wageningen professor Phil Macnaghten, who studies the introduction

QUESTION TIME FOR RESOURCE

They are used to posing their questions to the cabinet, but now Dutch parliamentarians also get to ask *Resource* a question that Wageningen scientists might be able to answer. In this edition, a question from Socialist Party MP Henk van Gerven: **Can we feed the world through traditional plant breeding?**





SP MP Henk van Gerven wants to know what it will take to keep on feeding the growing world population.

of new technologies. 'Whether we can feed the world is not a technological question. We have to look at the social, ethical, institutional, political and cultural aspects of the food supply. All those aspects are locked into agricultural systems around the world. To get results, we've got to understand those socio-cultural aspects and create the conditions for agricultural development and a viable, healthy environment. To do that we need to enter into a public debate about which technologies people need, and what advantages they see in new technology.'

MacNaghten wrote a book about the lessons we can learn from the introduction of genetically modified crops in Mexico, Brazil and India. He thinks the discussion focuses too much on the question of whether GMOs are safe for our health and the environment. He says we should be asking whether farmers and the population stand to benefit from new technology. 'Just look at the public perception of medical biotechnology: everyone knows that it saves lives. Compare that with the prevailing opinion on agricultural biotechnology: that it doesn't benefit the public, only Monsanto's sales of pesticide.'


Van Ittersum agrees with MacNaghten on this point. 'The problem with GMOs is that the companies made big promises, but that the first large-scale use of GM was to create herbicide-resistant crops. GMOs may well have led to an increase rather than a decrease in the use of pesticides. I don't object to GMOs, but they should form an appropriate part of a whole set of measures for increasing agricultural production sustainably.'

BREEDING GOALS

Plant breeder Richard Visser shares the view that food technology should benefit society. He sees no problem with working on a GM crop that offers greater food security under dry conditions. He is pondering possibilities for crops such as potatoes, cassava and fruit trees as well: 'These are all crops for which it takes a very long time to develop a good variety. In such cases adding a resistance gene, for example, which retains all the positive things about the original variety, is a very good idea. You can do that with new techniques such as cisgenesis and Crispr-Cas.'

Visser thinks our licensing policy should not make distinctions between techniques –

whether or not they involve GM – but between the goals of the breeding. 'The discussion in Europe is extremely fixated on the technique, whereas countries such as Australia and Canada assess breeding on the end product: is that safe for people and for the environment? Given the technological developments of today, that seems to me the best approach.'

But assessing safety alone is not enough, repeats Phil MacNaghten. 'Maybe we want those GM crops, but we do not fully understand the social impact of this technology, because it is not embedded in a social context. On the one hand, consumers do not feel part of a discussion about this technology and are taken by surprise, while biotechnologists on the other hand can't see the limitations of their technological perspective.' 

**All the articles in this series
are on resource-online.nl.**

UNITED UNDER ONE BRAND?

Wageningen University & Research is to be the new brand for all Wageningen research and education. Institute names such as Alterra, Lei and Imares will be consigned to history from 1 September. How do their staff feel about that?

text Rob Ramaker illustration Geert-Jan Bruins

Thom Achterbosch



Senior research at LEI Wageningen UR in The Hague

'I am attached to the brand name LEI.

At the agricultural directorate at the EU they pay particular attention to any publications with the name LEI on them. But I travel a lot outside Europe

too, and there I mainly use the name Wageningen University & Research Centre, because that means more to people there. So I hang out whichever flag works best, depending where I am.'

Marlies Sanders



Researcher at Alterra Wageningen UR in Wageningen

'We've been called Alterra Wageningen UR for some time now, so it's not a sudden complete change of name.

At the time it was a deliberate strategy to put "Alterra" up front so we would come at the top of alphabetic lists – even above Arcadis. After all, we have to sell ourselves. With the name "Wageningen University & Research" we suddenly find ourselves at the bottom of the list. In some cases that will make a difference.'

Yvon Geurts

Researcher at the Central Veterinary Institute (CVI) in Lelystad

'I saw no need to change the name. We are based in Lelystad so we don't really feel linked to Wageningen UR. I feel more part of CVI than of Wageningen. What's more, this is the umpteenth change of name. It's a waste of money and

the brand familiarity that has been built up. Anyway, the change of name isn't a subject of discussion here; I don't know when it's going to take place and we are not preoccupied with it at all.'

Ellen van Kleef



Associate professor in the Marketing and Consumer Behaviour chair group

'I understand the problem of finding the right name. You want to make it as simple and clear as possible for outsiders. But when I type the new name I think I will be inclined to leave out the

word "research". That is included in the word "university": we do research here and it feels superfluous to repeat that. I haven't been giving this any thought at all and now it makes me wonder. Do I have to mention the new affiliation next time I submit an article to a journal?'

Maarten van Hoppe



Researcher at Imares Wageningen UR in Den Helder

'Personally I've never given very much thought to what this means for us. I do think it's a bit funny for such well-known names to disappear. It will be a bit confusing for parties you work

with. Currently people associate the fisheries sector with Imares. It will take time before they associate it with Wageningen University & Research. Not that I am particularly attached to the name Imares – which is only an odd abbreviation – but I have grown used to it. Now I'm going to have to tell people again that the organization I'm working for has a new name.'



Martin Baptist



**Researcher and advisor at Imares
Wageningen UR in Den Helder**

'First of all: I think it's a good idea for the name to be simply Wageningen University & Research. I was at a meeting in Antwerp recently, and there were researchers from Croatia, Austria, Spain and all sorts of places. **The name Imares doesn't mean anything to them, but they've all heard of Wageningen.** But now yet another brand name is being created: Wageningen University & Research. We'll probably call ourselves Wageningen Marine Research rather than Imares. Anyway Imares is to stay in use as a nickname, whatever that might mean. That will cause confusion.'

Marcel Hulst



**Researcher at Wageningen UR
Livestock Research in Wageningen
and elsewhere**

'I think it's quite handy to have one name for everyone. It's impossible to explain the way it is now to clients.'

Apart from Livestock Research I am also involved in projects with the CVI and I work for the Animal Breeding & Genetics Group. When I say who I work for, people get very confused. All those names: business units, sciences groups, institutes... Outsiders can't see the wood for the trees.'

**Want to know more
about the branding
policy?**

**Look on resource-online.nl
and join in the discussion.**

Martijn van de Heide



**Researcher at LEI Wageningen UR in
The Hague**

'I think it's a good idea in itself. We all agree by now that we need to aim for One Wageningen. If that's what you want you shouldn't keep up the distinctions between institutes to the outside world. I shan't feel any less of a bond with Wageningen University & Research than with LEI. **And I hope that this will reduce the internal competition: looking enviously at other institutes.** I do think it's a pity to lose a tradition, though. The LEI goes back 75 years, and its name is a strong brand in the agricultural world.'

Peter Willemsen



**Researcher at CVI Wageningen UR in
Lelystad**

'I totally understand the wish for uniformity. But now the CVI is subjected – and this has already happened four or five times – to a change of name that will make it less well-known.'

Internationally, "CVI" and "Lelystad" are big names. If you scrap those names you throw away capital. Of course, you get the name Wageningen in exchange, and it is a great name. But I know from experience that companies can't find you again after a name change.' ®

‘I want to build a life here’

Ammar Rubayi (34) fled from Iraq to the Netherlands in 2008. He recently graduated from Wageningen as a food technologist, thanks to a grant for refugee students. ‘I love the Netherlands.’

text Linda van der Nat photo Sven Menschel

He still has nightmares about it. In 2008 Ammar Rubayi was kidnapped by a group of men in his home city of Baghdad. ‘It was a traumatic experience. I was kept in captivity and mistreated for several days. Eventually, with the help of my grandfather who lives in America, my family paid 10,000 dollars to get me released.

Ammar was left unconscious at the side of the road. It is still a mystery who kidnapped him. ‘At that time kidnapping was a business in Iraq. People were making money that way. It happened to me because I come from a well-off family: my father was a helicopter pilot in the army and my mother was a scientist with the ministry of Health.’

One thing was clear to Ammar: that he needed to leave

Iraq. Since the American invasion and the fall of Saddam Hussein, the country had become a dangerous and chaotic place. Ammar: ‘I was a pharmacist and worked in a children’s hospital. After work I went home as fast as possible. It was so unsafe on the streets that you tried not to be outside any longer than necessary. There were shootings everywhere, a bus could explode or a car bomb could go off at any time. I saw people change: they were stressed and scared.’

‘All refugees have their dreams’

SNOW

Ammar fled Iraq together with his father, whose solidarity was called in question after the fall of Saddam Hussein. ‘My father was no longer safe in Iraq. Hundreds of pilots were killed in the period after 2003.’ Ammar travelled from Iraq to Turkey and from there to the Netherlands. ‘I was in a truck, behind the driver in the cabin. I had no idea where we were going. I had lost track of my father on the way.’

Ammar ended up in Amsterdam at the end of December 2008. ‘I can remember that it was cold, really cold. It was snowing.’ He took the train to the asylum-seekers’ centre at Ter Apel, where a long procedure was set in motion to get a residence permit. He moved from Ter Apel to Eindhoven and from Eindhoven to Heerlen. ‘It was a stressful period,’ Ammar says of that time. ‘I was in a constant state of amazement and confusion: what is going to happen to me next? I couldn’t enjoy the fact that I was in another world now.’ The only comfort was that he was reunited with his father in Heerlen.

In May 2009 Ammar received the good news that he was to get a residence permit. He moved to a flat in Zeist, started learning Dutch and preparing himself to go to



Ammar Rubayi is enthusiastic about the Wageningen approach to learning: 'I had a lot more group work and presentations here than in Baghdad.'



university. The UAF, a foundation which helps refugees find work or higher education in the Netherlands, paid for his language courses and later his tuition fees and textbooks. He is grateful for that. 'All refugees have dreams. They want to achieve something. My move from Iraq to here was like being reborn: it's as though you are starting a new life.'

PARTIES EVERY DAY


It took a while still before Ammar could actually start on a higher education course. His father fell ill and he looked after him. In the end he started the Wageningen Master's programme in Food quality management in 2014. 'I am interested in food quality and for my thesis I could draw on my background in pharmacy to make links between food and medical drugs.' The Wageningen approach to learning suited him. 'Medical programmes in Baghdad are very stressful. You spend a lot of time in the lab and you get a lot of information in a short period. Here there was more group work and presentations. I didn't find the material difficult: I was more qualified than you had to be for the Master's. So I got good grades, sevens and eights.'

Wageningen student life suited Ammar too. 'For students who live in Wageningen it's a party every day.' There are so many nice activities and interesting organizations. Ammar tried to get as involved as he could, which was a bit difficult since he lived in Zeist. 'I did my best to stay as long as I could after classes, for group work or lab work. I joined in the Arabian Nights at ISOW.' Ammar was also on the jury of the Teacher of the Year Awards 2015.

CREAM CAKES

It has been a beautiful journey, from 2014 till now, says Ammar. 'I love Iraq but I love the Netherlands too, you are

in my heart. I like Dutch licorice and the cream cakes, and I barbecue with my neighbours.' He doesn't know whether he'll ever go back to Iraq. 'I want to build a life here, gain experience and develop myself. I was given the chance to study here and now I want to give something back. Integration is an important part of that.'

For this reason, his advice to refugees coming to the Netherlands now is: learn the language and get some higher education. 'The experience you bring from your home country is not enough by itself. To succeed here you have to have studied here, so you need to get a degree from a Dutch university.' 



Ammar Rubayi (second from the left) in 2005 at the Al-Noman hospital in Baghdad.

DEPRESSION

Rats bred for depressive tendencies perk up considerably when they are put in a more cheerful environment. More precisely: in a more spacious cage with lots of hiding places and toys to clamber over. This was discovered by researchers at North Western University. They think it is good news for people prone to depression. Depressive? Try a bigger house with plenty of hiding places and paly equipment you can clamber over.

SMART

City birds are smarter than country birds, say researchers from McGill University in Montreal. They looked at how different goldfinches performed in 'IQ tests' such as opening pots of food. The city finches are better at it. The question is of course whether that makes them more intelligent. Why would you struggle to open a pot if there is food for the taking on the streets?

SPERM

Suntan lotion is bad for sperm, claim Danish researchers at the University of Copenhagen. The UV filters in the lotion disturb the hormone balance of sperm cells. According to the researchers, this many explain declining male fertility. The suspect chemicals are often present in makeup and skincare products too. Beauty comes at a price.

THE PILL

The contraceptive pill may have disastrous effects on fauna in our ditches. Male frogs cannot cope with the female hormones that end

up in the environment via the pill. Polish and Danish researchers have proven that frog populations are becoming feminized. Genetic males are becoming females in appearance and behaviour. With extinction as an inevitable consequence.



Sphinx wins both championships

The first men's team in Sphinx, the Wageningen student basketball club, have already become the regional champions. On Saturday 2 April, the men won at home in De Bongerd by such a large margin that no one can catch up with them now. Two week earlier, the first women's team at Sphinx won their championship too – unbeaten.

The men's match began tense but captain Constantinos was confident. 'It helped that we were playing at home; there were loads of supporters. I already knew we'd win after the second quarter.'

In the packed Bongerd, every good move was greeted with a cheer but the party only really started in the final seconds. Then the team went up to collect the cup accompanied by a standing ovation and the famous 'We are the champions'. Constantinos is proud. 'I'm so pleased all that hard work paid off. It was a diffi-



Sphinx – in yellow – won on 2 April, beating the Hanze Stars from Zutphen hands down.

cult season, partly because we had to combine it with our studies.'

Next year, the Sphinx men will be promoted to the second division. However Constantinos says it is not likely that the team

will stay the same. 'Some of the lads have finished their degree.' The Sphinx women will move up next season to the first division.

R DK

'Wageningen Got Talent'

You can't get away from talent shows on the TV, but what about the talent in Wageningen? No problem in that department, it turned out on Wednesday 23 March in the Wageningen Got Talent event in The Spot. The evening got off to a strong start with magician Janse Heijn. He magicked a corkscrew out of his handkerchief and also tried to improve the world record for solving the Rubik's Cube. Biotechnology student Daan Hooijenga was able to win over the audience with his singing but after that it got so noisy in the room that the Wageningen Comedy Club's jokes could hardly be heard. The mood was better after the interval. Allegra, the pole dancing society, entertained the audience with a graceful show. The evening ended with Tim Hosting, a 'mentalist' and for-



mer participant in the SBS TV programme MindMasters. He astounded the audience in particular with his Russian roulette with staplers.

R KP

See the series of photos at resource-online.nl.

Rewards for buddies

Students who act as mentors for international students during the AID will from now on be asked during the introduction days whether they would also like to be buddies. If they say yes, they get one year's free membership of IxESN and 50 euros for an outing with their buddy group.

Previously students were already asked whether they would like to be buddies as well when they signed up as AID mentors. Being a buddy means continuing to get together with their 'kids' for at least six months after the introductions days. 'We noticed that many mentors found the distinction confusing,' says Paulie Jager, student of Nutrition and Health and buddy coordinator at IxESN. 'They didn't understand the difference between a mentor and a buddy.' It is also difficult for students to estimate beforehand whether they will want to stay involved with their group after the AID, because they don't yet know how well they get on with them.

The international student association is keen to recruit more members, says Paulie. 'Buddies always get a year's free membership of IxESN, which gives them a discount on activities and excursions. They also get 50 euros for an outing with their buddy group. What we get out of it is more enthusiastic members who enjoy helping international students find their way around in Wageningen and the Netherlands. It is always difficult to find mentors and buddies, so we hope this gives us a bigger pool to fish in.'

IxESN will now give presentations about exactly what the buddy programme entails at the AID training sessions for mentors. The student association is also making plans for an event at the AID that will draw attention to the buddy programme. 'It's very nice to be a buddy; you get to know a lot of people from all around the world, you can practise your English and get to know other cultures.'

© LvdN



Text
Kim
Peterse



EPISODE 69 MORTIERSTRAAT 14B <<

The story so far: Derk came out completely some time ago with his new boyfriend Jelle. Well, maybe not completely...

'Don't tell Mum'

Derk started to wake up a bit at last. The cold shower freshened up his groggy head. He wasn't used to drinking much alcohol, on account of all his sport. So pushing the boat out last night was taking its toll this morning. He had been to the 'Don't tell Mum' party at Unitas with Jelle, and had really let rip. Now he was amazed to see a stream of orange colour running down the drain. The theme of the party was 'I got stuck in a fairy tale' and Jelle – who went as Aladdin – had persuaded him to go as Puss-in-Boots. Apparently he hadn't bothered to remove his face paint last night. Still in his dressing gown, Derk went into the kitchen, where the smell of Willem Jan's deep-frying session still hung in the air. With a sigh he shoved the fryer, dirty plates and open jar of mayonnaise to one side and started making breakfast. Luckily he was free this morning. That was not the case for Jelle but to Derk's surprise he had woken up to find him still beside him in bed. He

had probably slept through his alarm.

Derk could not suppress a smile. It really was a bit of a fairy tale, he thought. He had been with Jelle for the best part of two months now, and nearly everyone had accepted him. Armed with a large cup of coffee, a glass of orange juice and two toasted sandwiches, he went back to the bedroom. Let's see how Jelle is, he thought.

Jelle was sitting up in bed looking at his mobile phone. 'Look what I've got for you: your morning medication,' said Derk, passing him his breakfast. 'Thanks! You are the best,' said Jelle. Then he asked, in a more serious tone, 'Derk, have you told your parents yet, actually, that you fancy men?' Seeing Derk's puzzled look, Jelle passed him his mobile. On the screen was a photo of Jelle and him kissing at the Don't tell Mum party. He was tagged. The very first comment jumped out at him: 'Derk, what on earth is this?! We really must talk!' From: his mum.



ILLUSTRATIONS: KIM PETERSE

Resource follows events at Mortierstraat 14B

>> PARTIES

The best parties according to Wageningen Uitgaans Promotie. Check www.wageningenup.nl for all parties.

**JUNUSHOFF - PHD PARTY**

Friday 8 April from 22:00 to 04:00

The annual party for PhD candidates starts with a salsa workshop this year. You need to register in advance but admission is free. Not a PhD student but would like to come to this party in the Junushof theatre? If you are invited by a PhD student you can still get in.

CERES - STUPÉFÊTE: THE WORLD IS YOURS

Friday 8 April from 23:00 to 05:00

The second Ceres Stupéfête party is taking place this Friday. You've got the whole weekend to recover so you can party till the small hours. Imagine yourself in Brazil or New York at this world party. Admission is a bit pricy at 5 euros.

ARGO - OPEN FEEST: VARSITY

Tuesday 12 April from 23:00 to 06:00

To celebrate the legendary Varsity rowing race there is an open party at Argo. Let your hair down till dawn, with a view over the Rhine. If the competition rowers join in the drinking, it will be quite a party.

KSV FRANCISCUS - FRANCISCUS IN THE MIX

Thursday 14 April from 23:00 to 05:00

Decide for yourself which music you'd like to hear at the open party at KSV. A maximum of 200 numbers can be played so get there early if you want to be sure your request gets played. Admission 4 euros. ⑥

>> THE WORKS

'MY MOTHER SENT A SUITCASE FULL OF SULTANA BISCUITS.'

Who? Kimberly Linde, Master's student of Nutrition and Health

What? Thesis research on vitamin A deficiency in children

Where? Telemu, Nigeria

'Vitamin and mineral deficiencies can best be solved with food that people already grow and eat. For the project where I did my thesis research, two crèches were set up, where we provided 250 children with breakfast and lunch six days a week, to see whether we could reduce their vitamin A deficiency with yellow cassava. Many Africans already eat white cassava.

The idea was that I would come in the final phase of the project, but it was still in the initial phase and I mainly helped with setting everything up. I get enthusiastic very quickly and then I tend to take the lead, but hierarchy turned out to be very important there. As a student you are on the bottom rung of the ladder. Eventually I slowly started to work together with the project leader and the project manager. The typical Dutch schedules, plans and lists came into their own.

It was tough. I was woken up at 6 in the morning by the cooks starting to cook for the children next door to my room. I started work at 7 and was done at 10 o'clock in the evening. I am a perfectionist and couldn't easily let go of the project, partly because the whole team was living in one house, just around the corner from the crèches.

The local food was very disappointing. They eat rice or potatoes with a sauce made mainly of red peppers. I can't cope with hot food very well. They tried to make it less hot but I still couldn't eat it. Luckily, on the



advice of my supervisor, I had taken along enough noodles for the first month. In the end my mother sent out a suitcase full of Sultana biscuits, which I counted regularly to reassure myself that I had enough to last till the end.

One day I went to the market with a colleague. I waited in the car while he paid for some stuff. He had taken his key and left his telephone behind. He was away a long time and people got more and more inquisitive and gathered around the car. Because I was white, they all wanted to touch me through the open windows. In the end another colleague phoned to ask where we were. When she realized I was there alone she came for me as quickly as she could. Later she said I should never have been left alone at that market, for my own safety. Fortunately it all ended well.' ⑥ MvdH

MEANWHILE IN... <<

Meanwhile in... Brazil

In the news: Brazilian president Dilma Rousseff has appointed ex-president Lula, who is suspected of corruption, as minister. Since then she has rapidly lost the support both of her party and of the people of Brazil.

Commentary by Silvia Gabriela Abreu e Silva (Nutrition and Health) and Gustavo Crestana (Plant Sciences)

Silvia: 'The federal police revealed that Rousseff appointed Lula as minister in order to obstruct the investigation into allegations of corruption by Lula. Brazilians are now rising up in protest, and demanding Rousseff's resignation. It is important to realize that there are still people who support Rousseff and her PT party. In my view the main issue is that Brazilians are fed up with the corruption that affects all politics and governance in the Brazilian system. Corruption is not linked to one political party but is rooted at the national, provincial and municipal levels countrywide.

There is an urgent need for moral and political reform in Brazil. At the moment we are in the midst of a crisis in which the ruling party the PT is governing badly. As a good Brazilian I hope for the best for my country and I stay positive!

Gustavo: 'Corruption has existed in Brazil since the Portuguese arrived



PHOTO: VALENTINA PETROV/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM

there. It is nothing new. The problems in our country go way beyond the present corruption case. Former president Lula helped raise our country out of poverty and got economic progress going. Rousseff is having difficulty keeping up that momentum. Mismanagement is the order of the day. That leads to unemployment and inflation, and companies stop investing in our country, prompting major protests by the people. The media contribute to this too. They focus exclusively on corruption in Rousseff's PT party, whereas it happens in all the parties.

It is hard to predict which way things will go. The situation is very unstable. Rousseff could resign, in which case vice president Michel Temer will take over. But Rousseff might also find a way of staying in power, even though that would only weaken popular support for her.'

LDP

Voeding en dementie



Welkomstwoord

door prof. Lisette de Groot, WU

'We worden ouder en het brein ook'

drs. Marc Petit, voorzitter Internationale Stichting Alzheimer Onderzoek, ISAO

'Goede voeding om te onthouden'

dr. Ondine van de Rest, WU

'Minder ruiken en proeven als voorbodes'

dr. Sanne Boesveldt, WU

'Ik wil niet vroegtijdig vergeten, dus ik eet'

prof. Marcel Olde Rikkert, Geriater, Radboudumc

Panel discussie met sprekers

o.l.v. prof. Lisette de Groot, WU



Het programma van deze lezingenserie over voeding en gezondheid wordt aangeboden door de Stichting Dr. Judith Zwartz en de afdeling Humane Voeding. Het onderwerp dit jaar is 'Voeding en dementie'.

Het bijwonen van deze bijeenkomst is gratis, aanmelding is niet nodig.



Division of Human Nutrition



11 april 2016

Hof van Wageningen, Lawickse Allee 9,
Wageningen. Aanvang: 20.00 uur

(vanaf 19.30 staat de koffie klaar)

Voor vragen: human.nutrition@wur.nl

Forum Irregular Opening Hours May 2016

	2016	The Building	The Library	Student Desk IT Service Point	WURshop	Restaurant	Grand Café	Wageningen in'to Languages
Sunday	1 May	9 am - 7 pm	9 am - 7 pm	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Monday	2 May	8 am - 12 am*	8 am - 12 am*	12 pm - 2 pm	9 am - 4.30 pm	10 am - 2 pm 5 pm - 7 pm	8 am - 5 pm	9 am - 5 pm
Tuesday	3 May	8 am - 12 am*	8 am - 12 am*	12 pm - 2 pm	9 am - 4.30 pm	10 am - 2 pm 5 pm - 7 pm	8 am - 5 pm	9 am - 5 pm
Wednesday	4 May	8 am - 12 am*	8 am - 12 am*	12 pm - 2 pm	9 am - 4.30 pm	10 am - 2 pm 5 pm - 7 pm	8 am - 5 pm	9 am - 5 pm
Thursday Ascension/Liberation Day	5 May	8 am - 11 pm	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Friday	6 May	8 am - 11 pm	8.30 am - 5.30 pm	Closed	Closed	Closed	11.30 am - 1.30 pm	9 am - 5 pm
Saturday	7 May	10 am - 6 pm	10 am - 6 pm	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Sunday	8 May	10 am - 6 pm	10 am - 6 pm	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Friday	13 May	8 am - 11 pm	8 am - 10 pm	9 am - 1 pm	9 am - 2.30 pm	Closed	Closed	9 am - 5 pm
Saturday	14 May	10 am - 6 pm	10 am - 6 pm	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Whit Sunday	15 May	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Whit Monday	16 May	10 am - 6 pm	10 am - 6 pm	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed

* Attention 12 am is midnight

During working hours, the building is open to the public. After working hours, entrance is only possible with a WUR card.



WAGENINGEN UR
For quality of life

Orion Irregular Opening Hours May 2016

	2016	The Building	Bike basement	Restaurant	The Spot
Sunday	1 May	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Monday	2 May	8 am - 6 pm	8 am - 10 pm	11.30 am - 1.30 pm	8 am - 10 pm
Tuesday	3 May	8 am - 6 pm	8 am - 10 pm	11.30 am - 1.30 pm	8 am - 10 pm
Wednesday	4 May	8 am - 6 pm	8 am - 10 pm	11.30 am - 1.30 pm	8 am - 10 pm
Thursday Ascension Day/ Liberation Day	5 May	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Friday	6 May	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Saturday	7 May	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Sunday	8 May	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Friday	13 May	8 am - 6 pm	8 am - 6 pm	11.30 am - 1.30 pm	8 am - 4 pm
Saturday	14 May	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Whit Sunday	15 May	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Whit Monday	16 May	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed



WAGENINGEN UR
For quality of life

Leeuwenborch Irregular Opening Hours May 2016

	2016	The Building	Coffee Bar/ Restaurant	The Library
Sunday	1 May	Closed	Closed	Closed
Monday	2 May	7 am - 10.30 pm	8 am - 5 pm	8.30 am - 6 pm
Tuesday	3 May	7 am - 10.30 pm	8 am - 5 pm	8.30 am - 6 pm
Wednesday	4 May	7 am - 10.30 pm	8 am - 5 pm	8.30 am - 6 pm
Thursday Ascension Day/ Liberation Day	5 May	Closed	Closed	Closed
Friday	6 May	7 am - 10.30 pm	9.30 am - 3 pm	Closed
Saturday	7 May	8 am - 5.30 pm	Closed	Closed
Sunday	8 May	Closed	Closed	Closed
Friday	13 May	7 am - 10.30 pm	8 am - 5 pm	8.30 am - 5 pm
Saturday	14 May	8 am - 5.30 pm	Closed	Closed
Whit Sunday	15 May	Closed	Closed	Closed
Whit Monday	16 May	Closed	Closed	Closed

After 6 pm entrance is only possible after registration at the reception desk.



WAGENINGEN UR
For quality of life

Announcements

Vacancy: Web portal assistant at the Centre for Development Innovation (CDI)

Would you like to assist our international team in generating cutting-edge developmental content and producing innovative materials for web portals supporting CDI's international projects? Requirements: excellent written English, availability as an MSc student for at least 1 year 1 day/week, experience with web CMS, familiarity with CDI themes. E-mail: james.mulkerrins@wur.nl.

Wanted: an illustrator

Wageningen UR's online editorial team is looking for a student to convert text and/or data into illustrations/ visualizations. Hours: c. 16 hours a week (flexible). Some experience with Illustrator or other vector-based drawing software? Send an email with your reasons for applying to iris.vanwerven@wur.nl.

Student representative WU to the International Students Summit (ISS)

All MSc and 3rd year BSc students at WU can apply for this position. The ISS, organized by the Tokyo University of Agriculture will take place in Tokyo on 29 to 30 September. All costs will be covered. The summit's theme: 'Students Promoting Environmental Justice in the Globalization of Intensive Agricultural Systems'. Mail your application letter and abstract of your intended paper (max. 400 words) to wim.heijman@wur.nl.

Student safaris to southern Africa

This summer you can travel to southern Africa (Capita Selecta, 3 ECTS) to discover the nature and wildlife of Africa. Info: www.studentsafaris.nl or info@studentsafaris.nl

agenda

Thursday 7 April, 12.30-13.20

LUNCH WORKSHOP WWL/WAGENINGEN UR LIBRARY: CITING AND REFERENCING

To avoid plagiarism in academic writing, it's essential to cite and reference the sources you used. But what sources exactly, where to put an in-text citation, and how to make a reference list? Join the workshop, and learn how tools like EndNote can save you countless hours formatting reference lists. Venue: Forum, C0408. Info: wageningenwritingLab@wur.nl

Thursday 7 to Wednesday 20 April
FILMS FOR STUDENTS

At filmhuis Movie W: *Francophonie*, a docufiction about the director of the Louvre and a Nazi officer, a poetic reflection on art and power; *Tanna*, an exotic Romeo and Juliet story set among the Yakele tribe on Vanuatu; *The Assassin*, a stylized drama about a hired murderess with a troubled conscience in 19th century China; *Violeta went to Heaven*, an unconventional biography about Chilean singer-songwriter Violeta Parra; *Drone*, a documentary about modern warfare. Venue: Wilhelmaweg 3A.

WWW.MOVIE-W.NL

Wednesday 13 April, 20.30

STANDUP COMEDY DOUBLE ACT WITH FELIX HEEZEMANS AND RUUD SMULDERS IN AID OF IPSO FACTO BENEFIT WEEK

A hilarious evening (in Dutch), proceeds to emergency aid organization Free a Girl, whose mission is to liberate girls from forced prostitution and take the culprits to court. Tickets €5 from cabaret.ipso-facto@wur.nl.

Friday 15 April (20.15 hours) & Sunday 17 April (14.30 hours)

CONCERT 'RHAPSODY IN BLUE' AND 'THE BELLS' BY HET WAGENINGS SYMFONIE ORKEST AND HET ANDERE KOOR

The programme includes pieces by Rachmaninov, Mussorgsky, Gershwin and Tchaikovsky. The Friday concert is in the Johannes de Doper church, Bergstraat Wageningen. The Sunday concert is in Musis Sacrum, Velperweg Arnhem.

WWW.HWSOHAK.NL

Thursday 21 April, 16.00-18.30

RETIREMENT PARTY FOR DR RUDI ROIJACKERS

He started in the Water Purification department in 1980. He ends his career as a teacher who is popular with students. Venue for the farewell function: Lumen 1 & 2.

Deadline for submissions: one week before publication date (max. 75 words)
Email: resource@wur.nl

colophon

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Address

New address
Akke (Nex) POB
Droevendaalsesteeg 4,
6708 PB Wageningen
(Atlas, building 104, bode 31).
POBox 409 6700 AK Wageningen.

Secretariat: Thea Kuijpers,
resource@wur.nl, 0317 484020
Website: www.resource-online.nl
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Editorial staff

- Edwin van Laar (editor-in-chief)
edwin.vanlaar@wur.nl, 0317 482997
- Lieke de Kwant (editor)
lieke.dekwant@wur.nl, 0317 485320
- Roelof Kleis (ecology, social sciences, economy),
roelof.kleis@wur.nl, 0317 481721
- Koen Guiking (web editor)
koen.guiking@wur.nl, 0317 481338
- Linda van der Nat (students, education)
linda.vandernat@wur.nl, 0317 481725
- Rob Ramaker (nutrition, fisheries),
rob.ramaker@wur.nl, 0317 481709
- Albert Sikkema (plant sciences, animal sciences, organization)
albert.sikkema@wur.nl, 0317 481724

Others who work on Resource

Guy Ackermans, Jeroen Bok, Ton van den Born, Alexandra Branderhorst, Stijn van Gils, Aart-Jan van de Glind, Hoger Onderwijs Persbureau, Milou van der Horst, Amy Jansen, Nicole Janssen, Iris Keizer, Jan-Willem Kortlever, Kito, Hilde de Laat, Django Kaasschieter, Sven Menschel, Carina Nieuwenweg, Gienke Nijhof, Rik Nijland, Onnika van Oosterbosch, Derek Pan, Kim Peterse, Lucas du Pré, Simone Rijlaarsdam, Henk van Ruitenbeek, Eva van Schijndel, Kristina Simonaityte, Twan van der Slikke, Joris Tielsens, Pascal Tieman, Kees van Veluwe, Veronika Wehner, Daniël Dreadson, Rob de Winter, Remo Wormmeester

Design

Geert-Jan Bruins

Translators

Clare McGregor, Susie Day, Clare Wilkinson

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m.dewit@bureauvanvliet.com
Internal (reduced rate): Thea Kuijpers,
resource@wur.nl, T 0317 484020

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FILM  From Thu 7 Apr The Huntsman Winter's War	FILM  From Thu 14 Apr Room	ART  19 & 24 Apr Teatro Alla Scala
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THURSDAY NIGHT €3 STUDENTDISCOUNT

>>TYPICAL DUTCH




ILLUSTRATION: HENK VAN RUITENBEEK

Plastic bag? No, thanks

I sat in my bedroom, looked at the stack of plastic bags, and felt embarrassed. This was a year ago. I had been living in the Netherlands for a few months and hadn't yet grown accustomed to the Dutch habit of bringing my own bag to the supermarket.

Until that moment in my room in Wageningen I had never thought about the impact of purchasing a new plastic bag every time I did groceries. But seeing how Dutch people made a point of reducing the use of plastic bags made me change my behaviour, almost without noticing it. Nowadays I always keep a foldable shopping bag in my school backpack, in case I feel a sudden whim to go grocery shopping. This is a habit I want to preserve once I go back to my country, because I believe the old saying: 'the small acts that help to save nature will change the future'.

The good news is that Indonesia has also changed while I have been in the Netherlands. A few months after the rule was implemented throughout Europe that shops were no longer allowed to hand out free plastic bags, Indonesia also introduced legislation to reduce the use of disposable carry bags. I wasn't surprised about this at all and I am very pleased with this development.

I hope all the internationals in Wageningen will adapt to this good habit of our Dutch friends and stick to it when they go back home. Let's all bring our own eco-friendly shopping bag to the supermarket and eliminate the unnecessary use of plastic bags.  Ika Nurziah, MSc student of Plant Biotechnology, Indonesia

Seeing how Dutch people made a point of reducing the use of plastic bags made me change my behaviour

Do you have a nice anecdote about your experience of going Dutch? Send it in! Describe an encounter with Dutch culture in detail and comment on it briefly. 300 words max. Send it to resource@wur.nl and earn twenty-five euro and Dutch candy.