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LED lighting now also a greenhouse success

Greenhouse farmers extremely interested in LED lighting

Lemnis Lighting, now located in Den Bosch, is doing great business at the Horti Fair. The company, which made the news earlier this year with the Pharox, the first serious replacement for the light bulb in the form of LED, is receiving a huge amount of interest from greenhouse farmers at the exhibition in the RAI in Amsterdam. The company has signed options for about 60-70 hectares of LED lighting, all costing an average of approx. one million euros per hectare. Jeroen van Velzen of Lemnis says with some reservation: "We are still busy testing the product at various locations, although actually we are already sure of the outcome". For the time being, test locations can only be visited by interested companies.

Lemnis Lighting is the company owned by Warner Philips and Frans Otten, two great-grandsons of Anton Philips. Incidentally, the company has not only signed options. Van der Kaaij, a tomato growing company in the top ten of vine tomato growers in the Netherlands, has negotiated a contract for 0.8 hectares of lighting and has an option on a further 20 hectares. An agreement with Koppert Cress has also been signed.

For growers, using LED lighting can result in energy savings of 75 per cent compared to conventional lighting. "In addition, it has even more advantages. This form of lighting is easier to maintain and lasts a lot longer, so that replacing lamps will become a thing of the past" says Van Velzen, who foresees that before an LED fitting breaks another replacement will already be available because developments are moving so fast.

Nobody really doubts that LED lighting holds the future. However the great revolution still has to come: in people's living rooms. Philips is also extremely busy with the development of LED light and has already taken over specialized companies. Van Velzen admits that Lemnis is also carrying out talks with Philips: "There have been a number of discussions with Philips, but these have not yet led to any concrete agreements".

<< 60-70 million worth of options on LED lighting for greenhouses at the horticultural exhibition Horti Fair in the Rai in Amsterdam.