



3 November 2016

## FINALISTS ANNOUNCED FOR AIPH INTERNATIONAL GROWER OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2017

Nine ornamental growers, from Belgium, China, Colombia, Denmark, The Netherlands, Russia and UK, have reached the finals of the International Association of Horticultural Producers (AIPH) International Grower of the Year Awards (IGOTY) 2017.

On Tuesday 24 January 2016 at the Colosseum Theatre in Essen, Germany, the industry will come together to celebrate the finalists as the world's best in ornamental horticultural production. One will become AIPH International Grower of the Year.

AIPH is proud to host the awards in partnership with Founding Partner, FloraCulture International (FCI), and Headline Partner, Royal Flora Holland.

The finalists of each category are:

### **Cut Flowers**

Flores El Capiro S.A. - Colombia  
Van den Berg RoseS - The Netherlands  
LLC TK-Podosinki – Russia

### **Young Plants**

Beijing Nabobay Horticulture Co. Ltd – China  
Graff Kristensen A/S – Denmark

### **Finished Plants and Trees**

Boterdaele Erik bvba - Belgium  
Gui Zhou Miaofu Urban Horticulture Co. Ltd - China  
Boomkwekerij Ebben B.V. - The Netherlands  
The Bransford Webbs Plant Co - UK

Bronze, silver and gold will be awarded, where applicable, to each category. Each of the category winners will be judged for the overall award – AIPH International Grower of the Year.

For Costa Farms, IGOTY Winner 2016, the awards were particularly motivating. Justin Hancock, Consumer Marketing and Digital Specialist at Costa Farms, said, "The greatest benefits were the extra motivation it brought to our team and reinforcement of our corporate image. It reinforces the image of excellence and leadership we strive to portray

to our customers.”

The awards also highlighted a number of business strengths for Costa Farms including, “Our team, our culture, and the comprehensive solutions we offer—from R&D and Marketing to IT and Business solutions.”

The awards takes place during the week of IPM Essen, the world’s leading horticultural trade fair. The evening ceremony includes a drinks reception, gala dinner, live entertainment and provides a great opportunity for international networking.

Don’t miss the early bird tickets which are available until 31 December at 180 EUR per person, and 170 EUR per person for table bookings of ten people.

Find out more about the finalists at [www.aiph.org/groweroftheyear](http://www.aiph.org/groweroftheyear)

For bookings contact Maria Wallin on +44 (0)7825 816 266 and at [maria.wallin@aiph.org](mailto:maria.wallin@aiph.org)

#### Headline Partner



#### Founding Partner



#### Taking place during



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#### Notes for Editors:

International Association of Horticultural Producers (AIPH)

Since 1948, AIPH has united horticultural producers in an international community that thrives to this day. Much has changed in that time. Technologies advanced, cities rose from the ground, and we have become more connected than ever. As a result, our essential bond with nature has been weakened. AIPH strives to reignite and uphold an appreciation of plants that we believe is a basic human instinct. We support the work of grower associations globally and together we champion a prosperous industry, growing plants that enhance lives, advance societies and sustain our planet, for this generation and the next.

For further details visit [www.aiph.org](http://www.aiph.org)

#### IGOTY Awards

Brought to you by AIPH in partnership with Founding Partner, FloraCulture International (FCI), the IGOTY awards have been championing outstanding achievement in the sector since 2010. They recognise best practice in horticultural production by the top ornamental production nurseries from around the globe, celebrating the expertise and energy they give to horticulture. In 2016 ornamentals growers from Canada, China, Germany, Netherlands, Turkey, UK and USA reached the finals, where Costa Farms, US, became IGOTY winner 2016.

