

Plant production in Latvia



Latvian plant growers association

- Latvian Plant Growers Association is a non-profit organization that protects the interests of its members in state and non-governmental organizations.
- We are botanical gardens, the largest nurseries, collectors, educational institutions, etc ...
- We organize seminars, conferences, exhibitions, trips to share experiences and carry out a number of projects related to the development of the industry.
- www.stadi.lv, www.staduparade.lv, www.darznica.lv



Latvian plant growers

- We have more than 200 plant growing places. 113 are our members.
- The average plant growing nursery size is around 4 - 6 permanently working, 4 - 6 seasonal workers.
- The average turnover from 60 000 - 150 000 EUR. Over million turnover nurseries are only 4.
- We are growing decorative plants of coniferous and deciduous species, fruit trees and shrubs, perennial and summer flowers, aquatic plants and forest planting material.



Consumption and import

- On average, one resident of Latvia spends up to 8 -10 EUR per year to purchase plants
- 80-90% of the decorative plants and 50% of forest tree plants produced remain in Latvia for personal consumption.
- Import are around 15% of the whole plant market, and these are mainly: annual flowers, saplings of ornamental trees and shrubs, fruit trees in small quantities and large plants for greening cities.



Export

Latvia exports annually several million decorative plants, and almost 20 millions forest plants.

Export markets:

- Norway, Finland, Sweden - forest planting material, fruit trees, ornamental plants and saplings
- Lithuania - ornamental plants
- Estonia - forest planting material, perennials, ornamental plants and saplings
- Russia - ornamental plants
- Central Asia - Christmas trees, ornamental plants



Export market development.

- Decorative plant export volumes every year grow slowly.
- Forest plant export rises much faster up to 20% every year.



Main reason for the slow development – lack of cooperation.. often nurseries are not able to offer enough quantity, same quality plants



Plant growing market is changing

- At the enterprise level we can recognize more and more often cooperation in plant trade, export shipments, joint procurements, exchange of experience, rising of quality standards
- At the level of state, non-governmental and scientific organizations - the industry is recognized as fast-growing and perspective. Few cooperation projects between scientists, and entrepreneurs started this year.



Sapropel, lingonberry, sea buckthorn, plants with high added value, e-plant and other projects



Main challenges

- Aging of business owners, specialists
- Digitalization, process automation, robotics
- Introduction of new technologies in production
- EU and local requirements for material propagation and distribution, Copyright questions
- Challenges of globalization
- Climate change - introduction, insects and diseases
- Mastering and conquering of export markets



Thanks for attention!

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