

HTA Grower Technical Workshop Programme for 2025

Optimising nutrition and nutrient delivery in peat-free crops

March Golf Club, Grange Road, March, Cambridgeshire, PE15 0YH and Chapel Cottage Plants Ltd, Hook road, Wimblington, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 0QL

Tuesday 21st October 2025

This workshop aims to provide an insight into the nutritional challenges of production in peat-free growing media. Understanding the nutritional requirements of such crops and how to address them in peat-free growing media helps to achieve better plant establishment, crop growth, uniformity, and quality. Delegates will learn how to identify nutrient related problems and how to avoid them, as well as experiences with biostimulants and specific fertiliser products and their delivery into crops. This event also provides an opportunity for grower networking and hearing first-hand the experiences of the host nursery in their transition to peat-free production.



Workshop agenda

Time	Content	Speaker
March Golf Club, Grange Road, March, Cambridgeshire, PE15 0YH		
09:00 – 09:30	Coffee, tea, and refreshments	
Presentations		
09:30 – 10:10	Nutritional challenges in peat-free growing media	Selchuk Kurtev, Zest Sustainable ICM
10:10 – 10:50	Understanding the nutrient requirements of crops grown in peat-free growing media – learnings from the RHS Fellowship project	Dr Raghavendra Prasad, RHS Wisley
10:50 – 11:00	Coffee, tea, and refreshments	
11:00 – 11:40	Addressing the nutritional challenges of peat-free growing. Practical advice on nutrient deficiencies and how to avoid them. Update on biodegradable coated fertilisers	Andrew Wilson, ICL
11:40 – 12:30	Experiences with biostimulants, specific fertilisers and their delivery to correct nutritional issues in peat-free growing media	Selchuk Kurtev, Zest Sustainable ICM
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch buffet	
Chapel Cottage Plants Ltd, Hook road, Wimblington, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 0QL		
14:00 – 14:15	Introduction to Chapel Cottage Plants	Chris Green, Chapel Cottage Plants
14:15 – 15:45	Nursery tour and small plot nursery trial in seed trays	Chris and staff, Chapel Cottage Plants
16:00	Wrap up, networking and depart	

The number of attendees per business will be limited to two.

BASIS and NRoSO continual professional development points will be available on the day of the workshop.

Addresses and directions:

March Golf Club, Grange Road, March, Cambridgeshire, PE15 0YH (highlighted in yellow and A on the map) <i>What3words: ///Folk.Elastic.Daunted</i>	Chapel Cottage Plants Ltd, Hook road, Wimblington, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 0QL (highlighted in yellow and B on the map) <i>What3words: ///Ourselves.Showrooms.Plant</i>
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