Beschreibung (engl.):

For the current model project 'Use of peat reduced growing media for cultivation of ornamentals' five research institutes have formed a nationwide consortium. All five institutes are doing research on peat reduced growing media since several years. The LVG Hannvoer-Ahlem in the north, the Versuchszentrum Gartenbau Straelen/Köln-Auweiler in the west, the LfULG Dresden-Pillnitz in the east, the LVG Heidelberg in the south-west and the HS Weihenstephan-Triesdorf in the south act as regional coordinators and accompany and support demonstration farms in switching to peat reduced growing media. Additionally the HS Weihenstephan-Triesdorf evaluates the economic impact of the switch to peat reduced growing media. The model project addresses the entire range of growers, starting with small scaled, organically grown companies with the main focus on direct marketing and ending with large and specialized production facilities. Due to a coordinated selection of the demonstration farms the model project will reflect the variability of operating structures and cultivate species of the German ornamental plant production sector. Thus, the selection of the demonstration farms considers both regional features and comparability between regions. The even and statewide distribution of the demonstration farms ensure an intensive contact between demonstration farms and growers which are interested in switching to peat reduced growing media and thus, promotes a fast and easy transfer of the results to horticultural practice.