

Josef Fischer leaves Syngenta Flowers to fully dedicate to Innovation Projects in Floriculture

Downers Grove, IL USA, January 20, 2023 – Today, Syngenta Flowers announces that, following a successful 15 year long career at Syngenta Flowers, Josef Fischer is retiring on January 20th, 2023. Josef has contributed significantly to Syngenta's Flowers Organization and continues to be liaised with the floriculture business as an independent consultant to deliver game changing innovations.

Josef's career at Syngenta Flowers started in 2008, after the integration of Fischer group, famous for its Pelargonium and Poinsettia business with well-known varieties such as Tango. Fischer was the first to offer Xanthomonas-free varieties on the market, developed by the father of Josef. The technique developed at that time has brought Pelargonium to the level of performance that it has today. Fischer had a strong breeding pipeline and Syngenta Flowers' current Pelargonium assortment still is the result of that heritage and of big value. Fischer was also one of the first to move URC production out of mainland Europe, to the Canary Islands in the early 1970s, benefiting from the climate to produce more cost-effectively.

Prior to his current role as Global Innovations Manager, Josef has fulfilled key roles as Head of Marketing Flowers, Head of Technical Product Development and Global Asset Manager for vegetative crops, delivering the basics for Interspecific Pelargonium and coordinating the development. In these roles, Josef has helped the company navigate through significant change.

In his most recent role at Syngenta Flowers, Josef helped bring structure to the innovation process and supported the Global Operations Team to think beyond the supply chain. Josef has been the driver in the development of the well-known Xcarrier concept as well as OptiBoost, in collaboration with [OptiCept](#) and [Prebona](#); two companies who deliver game changing technologies to our industry. OptiBoost is a vacuum infusion technology for treatment of cut flowers and cuttings technology and significantly extends the shelf life such as roses. Josef will now continue his career in his mission to bring sustainable innovations to the industry.

Mark Schermer, Head of Flowers, is thankful for what Josef has meant for the company and is happy to see him continue to contribute to the industry. "Josef Fischer is a unique character with great passion for the industry. He does not only leave a legacy behind but he will continue to inspire the innovation in our company with his staple question: "Why not!?" We wish Josef all the best in his future endeavors."

About Syngenta Flowers

Syngenta Flowers is a leading global company in the pot- and bedding plants market. We produce seeds, cuttings and young plants that fulfil grower's and retailer's needs. 2,300 passionate people bring color to the world with innovative varieties in a broad range of crops. As part of Syngenta, a global company with a strong focus on the seeds business and breeding, we have access to leading breeding technologies. We create value for our customers by creative collaborations with strong partners. To learn more visit www.syngentaflowers.com

About Syngenta

Syngenta is one of the world's leading agriculture companies, comprised of Syngenta Crop Protection and Syngenta Seeds. Our ambition is to help safely feed the world while taking care of the planet. We aim to improve the sustainability, quality and safety of agriculture with world class science and innovative crop solutions. Our technologies enable millions of farmers around the world to make better use of limited agricultural resources. Syngenta Crop Protection and Syngenta Seeds are part of Syngenta Group. In more than 100 countries we are working to transform how crops are grown. Through partnerships, collaboration and The Good Growth Plan we are committed to accelerating innovation for farmers and nature, striving for regenerative agriculture, helping people stay safe and healthy and partnering for impact.

To learn more visit www.syngenta.com and www.goodgrowthplan.com.

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