SWEEPER consortium demonstrates its sweet pepper harvesting robot

On Wednesday, September 12th from 14:45 to 18:00 h, growers, suppliers and the press can see the live demonstration of the SWEEPER pepper harvesting robot. This demonstration will be given at the Proefstation voor de Groenteteelt in Sint-Katelijne-Waver (Belgium), one of the partners in this international research project. The BU Greenhouse Horticulture of Wageningen University & Research, coordinates the project in which partners from Sweden, Israel, The Netherlands and Belgium also participate.

The SWEEPER robot is the first sweet pepper harvesting robot in the world to be demonstrated in a commercial greenhouse. SWEEPER has been concentrating on harvesting peppers for the past three years, with 1.3 million tonnes being produced annually in Europe. The consortium expects that the outcome of their research will lead to a market introduction of the robot within a few years. The results confirm the leading role of Europe in the field of high-tech agro-robotics research and strengthens the competitiveness of the European greenhouse horticulture sector.

Registration is important and mandatory for participation in the demo. You can register by sending an e-mail to liesbet.van.herck@proefstation.be, participation is free. More information will be available at: www.sweeper-robot.eu.

PROGRAM

Date: September 12th, 2018
Time: 14:45 h – 18:00 h

Location:
Proefstation voor de Groenteteelt
Duffelsesteenweg 101
2860 Sint-Katelijne-Waver

Program:

14:45 Reception with coffee

15:15 Welcome (Raf De Vis)

15:20 Presentations of Sweeper consortium members
- **Introduction:** Jos Balendonck
- **Software:** Ola Ringdahl
- **Detection:** Polina Kurtser
- **Crop:** Liesbet van Herck
- **Testing:** Jochen Hemming

16:00 Sweeper Movie

16:05 Preliminary Evaluation Results (Jos Balendonck)

16:15 Sweeper Info market and live demonstrations

17:30 Reception with food and drinks

18:00 Closure

SWEEPER is a partnership between Wageningen University & Research, pepper grower De Tuindershoek BV, Umea University in Sweden, Ben-Gurion University in Israel and the Proefstation voor de Groenteteelt and Bogaerts Greenhouse Logistics from Belgium. This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 644313.