

sustainability journal **2021** #1

Xpol

Let's sustainalise



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Inspiring each other is half the job when it comes to a more sustainable business and supply chain

SUSTAINABILITY ACHIEVEMENTS 2018-2020

Since the start of our sustainability programme in 2018 we have achieved several steps. We are pleased to present you an update of our results in the period 2018-2020.

In this brief journal you will also find our 6 targets for 2025, which are followed up by our Sustainalise team, existing of Xpol staff from several disciplines within our company: production, network management, quality control, marketing, account management and members of the management team.

One main thing we have learned in the past few years is that our sustainability programme is a route that we gradually have to explore, develop and optimize: there is no exact blueprint for it. That is exciting and we are motivated in taking steps becoming increasingly more sustainable as a company where possible.

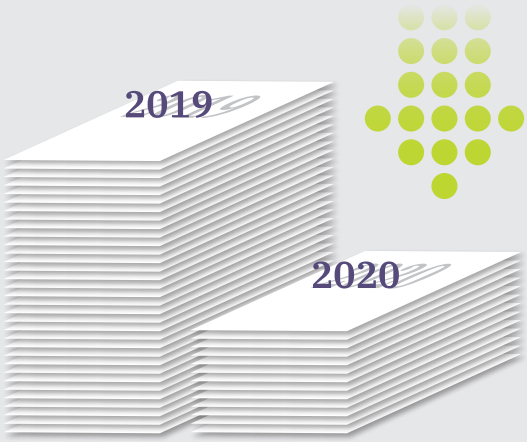
We will keep a sharp eye on the sustainability targets for 2025, but we cannot tick off exactly according to the list. It works better to gradually continue examining critically where we can act at that moment with the goals in mind.

As a service provider, we are in daily contact with many partners in the supply chain: growers, clients, logistic partners etc. We have the opportunity to co-influence and inspire each other in our supply chain when it comes to improving sustainability. So where possible we will keep sustainability on the agenda and integrate it in our daily business.

In case you want to know more about our programme, feel free to contact us!

RESULTS
two examples

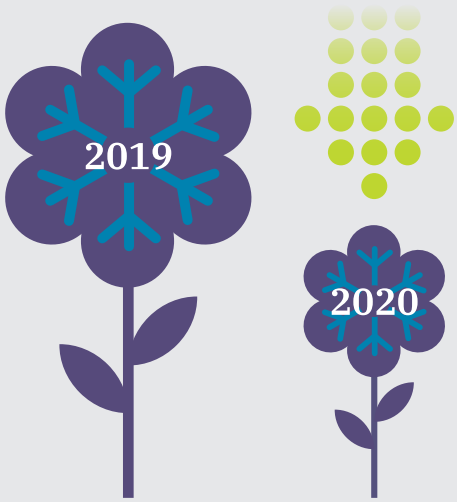
Reduction paper usage



Sales	**-72%**
Finance	**-82%**
Supply	**-48%**
Management	**-85%**
Logistics	**-47%**

This is achieved by working more paperless and in being more conscious whilst using printers and paper.

Reduction energy usage: cooling



We developed a freshness check and monitoring system, showing that between 2018 and 2020 the number of days that products are in the cooling area is decreased, meaning less energy is used.

Roses
From average 3,51 days in 2018
to 2,63 days in 2020 = **-25%**

Spray carnations
From average 6,55 days in 2019
to 6,06 days in 2020 = **-9%**

Spray roses
From average 3,2 days in 2018
to 2,9 days in 2020 = **-9%**

All the rest
From average 2,86 days in 2018
to 2,85 days in 2020 = **unchanged**

NEW ITEMS



Label machines

An example of a small step with large impact: our special label machines roll up the paper roll, saving a massive amount of loose sticker waste, time and volume. The finished waste rolls are collected by the supplier when delivering new stock.

Our Xpol BOXX growers' export carton

Some advantages:

- 15% less paper usage
- 8% more products in the same airplane pallet
- Less waste
- More space in the box
- Local production
- No taping
- Also available for private label use
- Improving along the way and by end 2020: v 4.0.



Some highlights

RESULTS 2018-2020

1 WASTE REDUCTION

- Green waste: larger containers = less transport and average **33% less green waste** compared to 2018
- Production waste separation Rijsenhout **increased from 79% to 94%**
- Testing a different way of labelling, using label machines rewinding the foil behind the stickers, saving a lot of volume in waste and time
- Re-use of cardboard corners of airplane pallets
- Xpol BOXX: self-locking instead of taping/stapling
- Invested in strapping machines for aqua boxes, resulting in **less damage of products** in stores and no taping (**saving plastic**)
- Waste separation stations installed in the office and canteen
- Printing paper usage: an overall **decrease in printing paper usage of 70%**
- Freshness products **increased by 5%** (less stock in the supply chain)

2 PACKAGING

- Xpol BOXX: **reducing over 15% of paper used** per airplane pallet vs. traditional box
- Testing dry flowers; **less packaging material** and can be kept/used longer by consumers
- Testing grey buckets **(100% recycled plastic)**

3 ENERGY IN RIJSENHOUT

- **Reduction energy usage: cooling.** Between 2018 and 2020 overall the number of days products are in the cooling area is decreased, meaning less energy is used.

4 ENVIRONMENT

- In Q3 2020 **37%** of our growers working under sustainable products active ingredients conditions
- In total volume delivered to Xpol this equals to **57%**

5 EMISSIONS

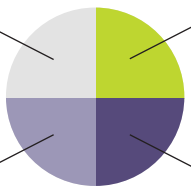
- Increased transport by truck vs. airfreight
- Sourcing: further development of more products from more European countries
- Xpol BOXX establishes appr. **5-10% CO2 emission reduction** due to more effective airfreight and packing
- Development of an additional ICT tool following the emission figures continuously

6 WATER

- Monitoring hydroponics and water usage growers
- **Working on programme water footprint** and 'what can we as Xpol do to work in environmental way when it comes to water?'

SUSTAINABILITY TARGETS 2025

Target #1
Waste reduction



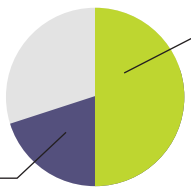
25% reduction paper usage in offices (digitalizing)

25% waste reduction in production

25% fresh drinking water reduction in production facility Rijsenhout

Full waste separation system

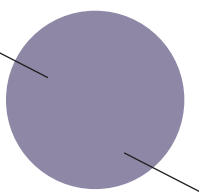
Target #2
Packaging



50% bio based/ sustainable packagings in production/supply chain

Decrease the amount of packaging materials from grower to client by 20% (including cardboard packaging etc.)

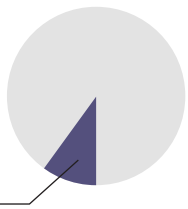
Target #3
Energy



100% own renewable electricity production Rijsenhout (+ possible alternatives for gas)

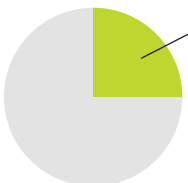
Reducing energy usage

Target #4
Environment



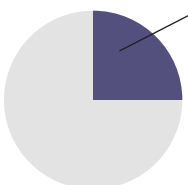
10% of amount of product covered under sustainable products on flowers and plants active ingredients

Target #5
Emissions

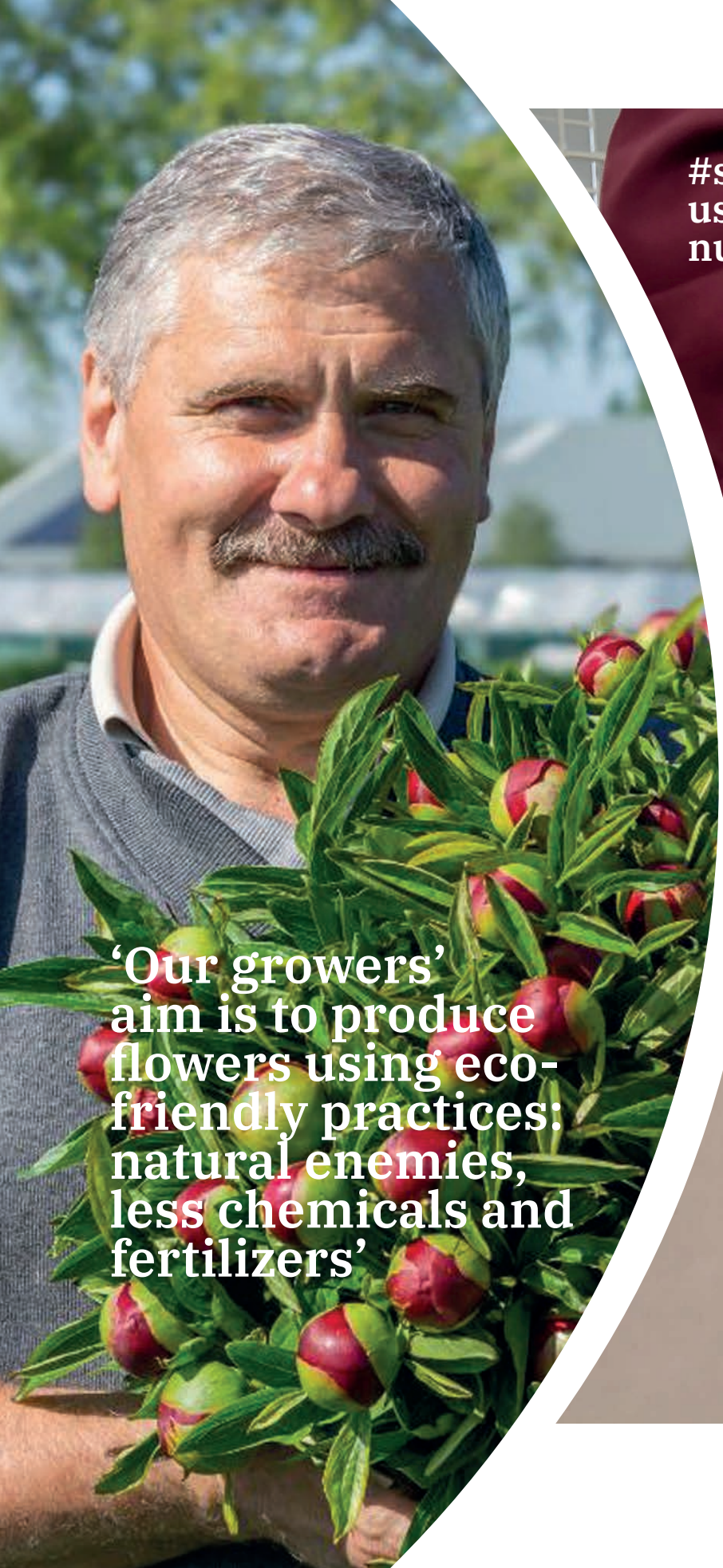


25% CO_2 reduction in transport/total supply chain in 2025

Target #6
Water



25% reduction of water use in overall production



‘Our growers’ aim is to produce flowers using eco-friendly practices: natural enemies, less chemicals and fertilizers’

#success ‘Xpol BOXX used by an increasingly number of growers’





DEVELOPMENT TARGETS 2021

1

Waste reduction

- Where possible further improve waste management in production Rijsenhout
- Testing press for plastic waste
- Further implementation of label machines
- Full implementation of strapping aqua boxes for all our customers

2

Packaging

- Running tests on sleeveless packing of bouquets
- Testing grey buckets

3

Energy

- Calculate/planning green energy contract and future solar panels

4

Environment

- Further define selection criteria growers
- Inventory existing growers
- Set up follow up system

5

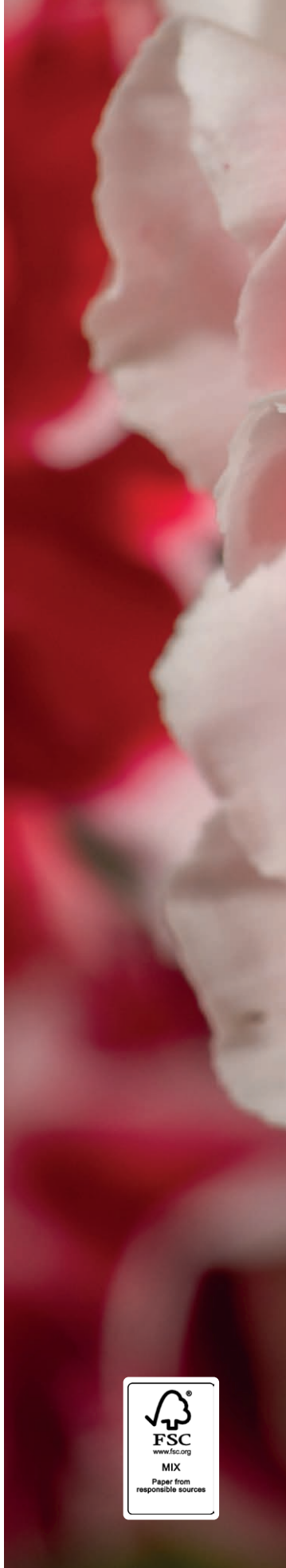
Emissions

- Implement knowledge and data in IT system
- Further expansion of European sourcing by more products from more European farms

6

Water

- Building clear follow up system water footprint growers



Let's sustainalise

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