The Importance of Pesticide-Free Flowers and Ornamental Plants

In Luxembourg, more than 500 different products containing pesticides are approved for use. Some of these pesticides are used in our households and our private gardens to poison unwelcome organisms or pests. The negative effects of pesticides are far-reaching, not only eliminating pests, but also harming beneficial creatures including pollinating insects such as bees, butterflies and hoverflies. Pesticides permeate and remain in plants, air, water and soil for long periods, slowly poisoning the environment, infecting animals and leading to chronic illnesses in humans. Given their complexity there is no way of determining the full scale of their potential damage.

In 2014, Greenpeace and natur&émwelt took a sample of 10 popular selling plants sold in five different hardware stores and garden centres in Luxembourg. Alarming results exposed that such plants are often loaded with pesticides! In fact, laboratory analysis revealed that 30 different pesticide residues were found; 8 of these were rated as being of particular concern to bees. Their study emphasises the importance of protecting insects, essential to the environment, and how you can contribute by buying pesticide-free flowers and ornamental plants whenever possible.

Since 2015, the project Ouni Pestiziden (without pesticides) has been trying to design and maintain public and private urban spaces pesticide-free. With consumers, like you, sellers, and plant producers, we are at the beginning of an incredible journey to resolve the problem of pesticides in flowers and ornamental plants. Together, if we succeed, there will be more local plant producers growing pesticide-free plants, contributing to healthier air, soil and water, from which we will all benefit.

Listed on the Ouni Pestiziden website are the names of companies in Luxembourg that cultivate varieties of plants, some without using conventional pesticides; certain organic materials are used for pest control instead. The Latin and German names for the pesticide-free plants sold by each organisation can be found here.

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A family business, **Fleurs Binsfeld** offers a wide range of exotic plants, seasonal vegetables, fresh flowers and bouquets for both the home and garden. They also create personalised gifts and decorative arrangements for a range of special occasions.

47 Porte des Ardennes, L-9145 Erpeldange/Ettelbruck
Tel: (+352) 81 23 53

A gardener-florist business situated in the south of Luxembourg, the **J.P. Breininger** Plant Centre specialises in flowers, plants and accessories as well as leasing luxembourg, the

Tel: (+352) 80 48 85-1

**InnoPlantes** specialise in the design, planning and maintenance of gardens and surroundings. Services include traditional pruning and trimming to transformation of gardens and the creation of ponds etc. They also provide terraces, walls, carports, garden sheds, pergolas and more. In their nursery, InnoPlantes grow perennial plants without pesticides and produce organic vegetables for sale on site.

1 Rue de la Forêt, L-5432 Kapenacker
Tel.: (+352) 26 74 76 50

**Les Services de l’Entraide** is a social initiative for employment managed by the Comité National de Défense Sociale (CNDS) which provides opportunities for work experience as well as social interaction and support services, with the aim to help people reintegrate into working life. In collaboration with the Naturpark Our, their project ‘Gaart’ produces vegetables and flowers according to the standards of the bio label, which are sold both on site and in regional markets.

136, rte de Luxembourg, L-7374 Helmdange.
Tel.: 33 72 52 - 1

**Kalendula** is a social garden that educates children, the elderly and other groups on the importance of sustainable development. Managed ecologically, the garden’s goal is to strengthen community spirit through the coordination of environmental projects that foster partnerships and greater collaboration in society. Food baskets filled exclusively with vegetables from the communal garden, gardening courses and an indigenous plants nursery are just some of Kalendula’s projects.

Rue des Romains, L-5671 Altwies.
Tel.: (+352) 54 42 84 - 00

Sharing the values of Kalendula, the principle aim of **Den Escher Geméisguart** is the provision of locally grown seasonal produce for local community centres, respecting nature while reducing carbon emissions.

rue Diessee (Gaalgebierg), L-4080 Esch-sur-Alzette
Tel.: (+352) 621 411 370.

**Gärtnerei Millenoacht** is a non-profit organisation that offers services to mentally handicapped people such as a sheltered workshop and training opportunities to encourage development and social integration. In their project’s nursery atelier, all varieties of spring and summer flowers, bushes and trees are grown. Their shop in Redange sells cut flowers, bouquets and floral arrangements. Garden teams also offer home delivery and planting of large orders as well as other gardening jobs such trimming hedges and cutting the lawn.

34a, Route de Reichlange, L-8508 Redange
Tel.: (+352) 26 62 93 - 1

**IT’S UP TO YOU – ASK FOR PESTICIDE-FREE PLANTS!**

The companies below are listed on the **Ouni Pestiziden website**: http://www.ounipestiziden.lu/blummen-ouni-pestiziden.html

**Fondation Kräizbierg** is a cooperative society whose mission is to assist disabled people to integrate socially by developing their competencies in the projects’ ateliers according to their capacities. The Garden Atelier produces young vegetable plants according to the “Bio-Label Lëtzebuerg” standards which are sold in small quantities to interested customers. High quality spring flowers and other outdoor flowers are grown too.

Atelier Jardinage, 180, route de Zoufftgen, B.P. 65, L-3401 Dudelange.
Tel.: (+352) 52 43 52 1.

**Fondation Kräizbierg**

Founded in 1991, the **Lëlljer Gaart** society comprises 7 specialised workshops ‘ateliers’ which offer mentally handicapped people secure long-term employment and personal development opportunities with the overall aim of social integration. The Garden Atelier specialises in care of private gardens: grass cutting, hedge trimming, planting new areas and so on. Young plants are grown in their greenhouses and garden.

Maison 30, L-9762 Lullange (Lëllgen)
Tel.: (+352) 99 47 84 - 1

With more than 1.200 m² of plants, flowers, original arrangements and decorations, **Gärtnerei Millenoacht** is there for special events including marriage, anniversaries, baptism, communications and so on. They are experts in the design and maintenance of gardens, including paving, steps and walls. Wooden terraces and garden sheds are also on offer as well as planting and care of vegetables and trimming of trees.

105, Route de Luxembourg, L-6453 Echternach
Tel.: (+352) 72 03 39

**Op der Schock** is a non-profit organisation that offers services to mentally handicapped people such as a sheltered workshop and training opportunities to encourage development and social integration. In their project’s nursery atelier, all varieties of spring and summer flowers, bushes and trees are grown. Their shop in Redange sells cut flowers, bouquets and floral arrangements. Garden teams also offer home delivery and planting of large orders as well as other gardening jobs such trimming hedges and cutting the lawn.

34a, Route de Reichlange, L-8508 Redange
Tel.: (+352) 26 62 93 - 1

As supplies are limited, you may wish to call the company before your visit to confirm their availability.