



Plant Biology

XXIII Meeting of the Spanish
Society of Plant Physiology

XVI Spanish Portuguese
Congress of Plant Physiology

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Arjen J. van Tunen (1958) graduated as MSc. in Medical Biology in 1986 and as PdD in Genetics in 1991, both from the Free University of Amsterdam. He worked 10 years for the Wageningen based WUR institute Plant Research International. First as Group leader Molecular genetics of floral organ formation in flowers (1991-1995), then as Head of department Cell Biology (1995-1998) and finally as Director Research (1998-2001). In 2001 he became Director of the Swammerdam Institute for Life Science of the University of Amsterdam. In 2004 he joined KeyGene, Wageningen, the Netherlands as CEO. Among other side functions Arjen is Board Member of EuropaBio, Food Valley NL and chairs the conference on Crop Innovation & Business to be held in April 2019 in Amsterdam.

KeyGene – the crop innovation company (www.kegene.com)

KeyGene is the go-to AgBiotech company for higher crop yield & quality.

With our intellectual capital, solution driven approach and collaborative spirit, we work for the future of global agriculture with partners in the AgriFood sector. Using our proprietary technologies and non-GM approaches, we support customers with the development of new and improved crops. Our goal is to help organizations with their toughest R&D challenges, combining our cutting edge breeding technologies, bioinformatics & data science expertise and plant-based trait platforms.

To date KeyGene is the largest dedicated AgBiotech company in Europe with > 150 employees, HQ in Wageningen, The Netherlands; subsidiary in Rockville, USA and a rep office in Hyderabad, India. KeyGene was founded in 1989 by a number of Dutch seed companies. KeyGene successfully operates as a B-to-B knowledge provider and is profitable from its start in 1989. The company positions itself as The Crop Innovation Company and owns > 70 different patent families, > 500 patent and patent applications. KeyGene has 4 strategic shareholders which are seed companies developing and selling vegetable seeds. Two Dutch (Enza Zaden and Rijk Zwaan), one French (Limagrain Vegetable Seeds) and one Japanese (Takii Seeds).