Colasse



CASE STUDY

**Horticulture · Aquaponics**

Indoor vertical farming

# Aquaponics, a technique with a future

**Colasse supports CERER-Pisciculture and ULiège in a pilot project for vertical farming using aquaponics.**

| 50 m²+ | ×3 | 80 % |
|---|---|---|
| of lit growing area in full production | 1 tonne of fish can produce 3 tonnes of vegetables | of the fish consumed in the EU are imported |

## Context

**CERER-Pisciculture** is a non-profit organisation specialising in applied aquaculture research, active in Belgium and abroad. Since 2014, it has been working on **aquaponics**: raising fish and growing plants in a closed system.

Fish waste feeds the plants in a virtuous circle that saves water and, more broadly, energy resources.

## The project

Since 2017, CERER-Pisciculture has been running a scientific collaboration with **ULiège** on a pilot project aimed at improving the technique, in particular its environmental impact and its cost. The resulting overview now makes it possible to issue recommendations for commercial-scale projects.

Colasse supported this research project by supplying the lighting equipment for the indoor vertical growing structures.

## The solution

Colasse carried out **spectrum and intensity measurements** as well as **lighting distribution modelling**: type of LED, spacing, equipment lifespan and intensity. The installation now lights **more than 50 m² of growing area** in full production.



> We had to work within a small, fixed budget, as part of European subsidies. Finding a suitable technical solution was not easy. I really appreciated Colasse's approach: they took an interest in our research and came back to us with the best technical solution, which was also very cost-effective. A real partnership, in which we never felt like a "small customer" nobody has time for. Their expertise is substantial and accessible, and the collaboration truly human and professional.

**Dr Vincent Gennotte**
Project manager, CERER-Pisciculture

> Colasse has always been committed to putting environmental issues at the heart of its business. By including us in this innovative project, CERER-Pisciculture allowed us to show that companies can also help build a world that makes sense and address major challenges – here, food production without wasting resources. A source of pride and renewed commitment for the whole team.

**Manuel Colasse**
Managing Director, Colasse SA

## Why this project matters

- Aquaponics addresses a challenge of the near future: **relocating food production** in a healthy, independent setting (80 % of the fish consumed in the EU are imported) that uses little fossil energy.
- Taking part in this kind of research allows Colasse to **check that its equipment is ready for future needs** and to develop the innovations its customers will need in the coming years.

More information: **cerer-pisciculture.be**

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Understanding your challenges is already securing your project.
**Let's talk.**


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