

GRIFFIN GAZETTE

Vol. 41 | Issue 2 | 2024

Problem Solving With
PROVEN WINNERS

Boost your Retail Sales
with **BRAND POWER**

KEEP IT COLORFUL
Throughout the Winter

IPM Using Biocontrol
Agents and Biopesticides



YOUR FAMILY OWNED SINGLE SOURCE SUPPLIER FOR ALL HORTICULTURAL NEEDS



GRIFFIN GAZETTE

VOL. 41 • ISSUE 2 | 2024

Welcome to the Griffin Gazette, delivering industry tips and insights from notable partners and experts.

In each issue, we bring you valuable knowledge, innovative strategies, and expert advice to help you stay ahead in your business. As a family-owned nationwide leader and distributor for more than 77 years, Griffin Greenhouse Supplies offers resources, workshops, and training to help you build a thriving growing business with knowledge-sharing and caring.

As your single source supplier for all horticultural needs, we invite you to join us as we explore and serve industry expertise and empower your journey of growth and success.

GROWER-SUPPLIES LOCATIONS

1.800.888.0054

Denver, CO	Bridgeton, NJ
Cheshire, CT	Auburn, NY
Stafford Springs, CT	Brookhaven, NY
Ball Ground, GA	Schenectady, NY
Woodridge, IL	Salem, OR
Tewksbury, MA	Morgantown, PA
Gray, ME	Richmond, VA

PLANT & SEED LOCATIONS

General Inquiries

1.800.888.0054

Woodridge, IL
Morgantown, PA

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COVER PHOTO:

Proven Winners®

PCR Compliance Made Easy!



At HCxCHG we don't just talk sustainability we live it

With the ever-changing plastics regulations in the USA and Canada, we take the guess work out of the equation by supplying products that align with current standards.

PCR EXPERTISE:

Our containers are manufactured with at least 10% post-consumer recycled materials, certified by respected 3rd parties for assurance and transparency in our supply chain.

ESG SUPPORT:

We're your go-to for ESG support, providing expert guidance and credible product certifications for sustainability focused customers and stakeholders.



Looking for a more biobased solution? Explore our biobased compostable plastics, and microplastic-free molded fiber container options. The Ecogrow and BioPax are plastic-free alternatives to standard plastic growing containers for a more biodegradable solution.



Contact us today to explore our sustainable solutions!

[HC-COMPANIES.COM](https://www.hc-companies.com) | 800.225.7712





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IT'S IN THE BAG



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PRO-MIX
AGTIV

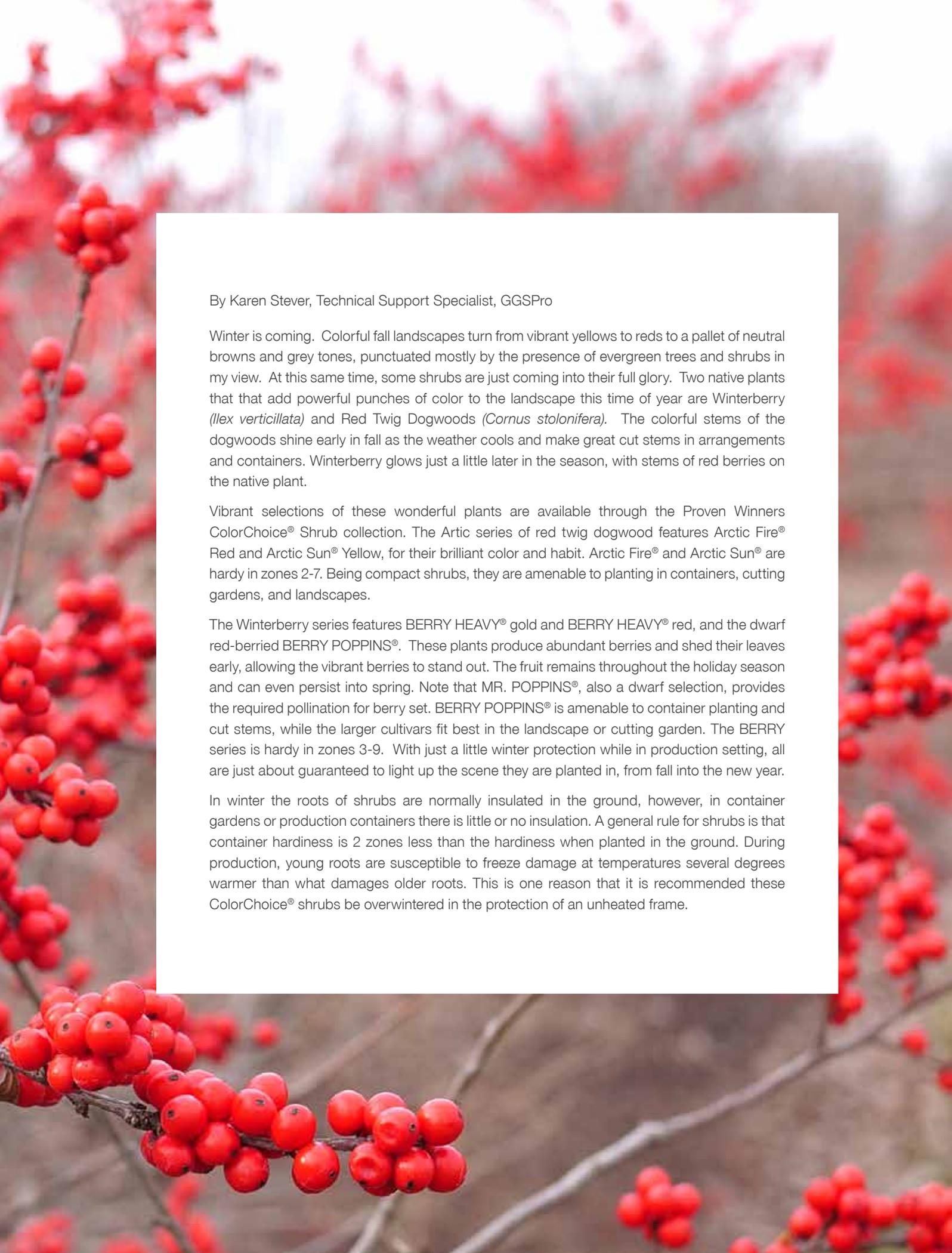
Striving for thriving crops? With PRO-MIX® premium growing media and AGTIV® biological active ingredients, it's in the bag.

AGTIV **FORTIFY** AGTIV **DEFEND** AGTIV **REACH**



KEEP IT COLORFUL

Throughout Winter



By Karen Stever, Technical Support Specialist, GGSPRO

Winter is coming. Colorful fall landscapes turn from vibrant yellows to reds to a pallet of neutral browns and grey tones, punctuated mostly by the presence of evergreen trees and shrubs in my view. At this same time, some shrubs are just coming into their full glory. Two native plants that add powerful punches of color to the landscape this time of year are Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) and Red Twig Dogwoods (*Cornus stolonifera*). The colorful stems of the dogwoods shine early in fall as the weather cools and make great cut stems in arrangements and containers. Winterberry glows just a little later in the season, with stems of red berries on the native plant.

Vibrant selections of these wonderful plants are available through the Proven Winners ColorChoice® Shrub collection. The Arctic series of red twig dogwood features Arctic Fire® Red and Arctic Sun® Yellow, for their brilliant color and habit. Arctic Fire® and Arctic Sun® are hardy in zones 2-7. Being compact shrubs, they are amenable to planting in containers, cutting gardens, and landscapes.

The Winterberry series features BERRY HEAVY® gold and BERRY HEAVY® red, and the dwarf red-berried BERRY POPPINS®. These plants produce abundant berries and shed their leaves early, allowing the vibrant berries to stand out. The fruit remains throughout the holiday season and can even persist into spring. Note that MR. POPPINS®, also a dwarf selection, provides the required pollination for berry set. BERRY POPPINS® is amenable to container planting and cut stems, while the larger cultivars fit best in the landscape or cutting garden. The BERRY series is hardy in zones 3-9. With just a little winter protection while in production setting, all are just about guaranteed to light up the scene they are planted in, from fall into the new year.

In winter the roots of shrubs are normally insulated in the ground, however, in container gardens or production containers there is little or no insulation. A general rule for shrubs is that container hardiness is 2 zones less than the hardiness when planted in the ground. During production, young roots are susceptible to freeze damage at temperatures several degrees warmer than what damages older roots. This is one reason that it is recommended these ColorChoice® shrubs be overwintered in the protection of an unheated frame.



Another consideration in overwintering is that maximum hardiness is only achieved by acclimation of the plant to shorter days and gradually lower temperatures. During acclimation, changes in the cellular structure allow water flow that prevents cell breakage with freezing. Without acclimation, early freezes can be very damaging, even lethal. To aid in acclimation, fertilization should be stopped or scheduled to run out when temperatures start to cool, about mid-September in much of the south and earlier in the northern production locations. Pruning should also end about six weeks before the cold moves in. A fungicide drench is typically recommended for plants during acclimation to prevent root rots (or crown molding in perennials), especially for plants that will be pushed together and covered for winter.

Once containerized plants are dormant, the dead foliage should be cleaned up and moved out of the holding area. Options for holding plants will depend on the hardiness, but include storage in unheated frames, houses heated just above the critical temperature, or consolidated and covered with winter cloth in a structure, outdoors, or in an in-ground pit. The goal of all these methods is to maintain the temperature as evenly and low as possible to maintain dormancy. Dormancy is more easily reversed than it is gained by plants. This makes it important to vent the holding area if it warms above 40°F during winter days to prevent premature growth. That is a relatively easy task in an unheated frame or in a greenhouse, but should also be planned for when plants are covered. Without cover, plants in a frame or a minimally heated greenhouse will need irrigated on occasion to prevent desiccation.

From trees to herbaceous perennials, taking these steps to protect a hardy crop over the winter leads to maximum profitability through minimal losses or damage. As a crop advisor I have a vested interest in successful overwintering of plants. As a plant lover, I also have a vested interest in sharing my love of beautiful, colorful plants – right now, that is anything that will brighten up my brown and grey landscape and is not a blanket of white.

As a Griffin customer, we encourage you to reach out to the GGSPRO team for questions and solutions at ggsprotech@griffinmail.com.



"During acclimation, changes in the cellular structure allow water flow that prevents cell breakage with freezing."



Problem-solving with
**PROVEN
WINNERS**

By Kate Spirgen, B2B Marketing Specialist, Proven Winners®

*Dependable varieties that stand up to the weather
make it easy to succeed with sales in 2025.*



At Proven Winners®, we understand that new plant varieties are the cornerstone of our industry, which is why we're excited to unveil more than 100 new varieties for spring 2025. Crafted to inspire repeat purchases, these plants are top choices gardeners will be asking for by name next year.

"Each plant we introduce to the market undergoes rigorous testing and evaluation, ensuring they meet our high standards for performance from the greenhouse to the garden," says Kevin Hurd, Proven Winners vice president of product development. "We invest years of research into developing each variety, selecting only those with the best genetics for Proven Winners containers."

Through our rigorous trials in the intense heat of Florida and Texas, we're able to select plants that not only thrive under extreme conditions like heat and drought, but also perform exceptionally well across the country. We trial annuals in the heat of summer and during the winter to test both heat and cold tolerance for several reasons. Winter trials are crucial to evaluating cold sensitivity and determine which plants can be planted early in the South to establish before the high heat arrives. Then, once summer arrives, we focus mainly on heat and humidity tolerance.

It's essential for Proven Winners to establish a strong presence in the South and Southeast, where population growth has been on the rise for several decades. Many people relocating from the North also want to garden with their favorite plants. Additionally, as northern regions experience warmer temperatures, stronger, heat-tolerant plants are becoming increasingly beneficial across the country.

While Proven Winners has offered heat-tolerant annuals for many years, there are several new introductions to keep on your radar. The new Stardiva® series of Scaevola looked perfect after more than 30 weeks in Florida trials, even in high heat. As the first-ever Scaevola aemula to feature star-shaped rather than fan-shaped flowers, it gives a fuller, more compact look than other varieties.

These trials have shown that when the heat is on, the Stardiva series is extremely durable, handling sun, heat, humidity, rain, drought and wind with ease. Winning a Perfect Score at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and Top Performer at University of Missouri, Michigan State University and Penn State, where it also won Director's Select, this plant has proven its durability in independent trials as well.



Scaevola Stardiva
White



Heliotropium Aromagica
Purple

Another addition to our heat-tolerant annuals, the Totally Tempted™ series of Cuphea performs in both humid and arid climates. Winning Top Performer awards at seven separate independent trials, it's another new but proven option.

Many other Proven Winners varieties gave standout performances in independent garden trials where the heat was on this year. The new Aromagica™ Purple Heliotropium was a Top 5 Open House Winner at the University of Georgia trials and won a Perfect Score at the University of Florida – Fort Lauderdale trials.

Other new varieties for 2025 stood up to the heat and humidity at the University of Florida as well, winning overall Top Performer awards. Those winners include the new Supertunia Mini Vista® Plum Veined Petunia, Supertunia Tiara® Blue and Pink Petunia, Mojave® Mango Portulaca, ColorBlaze® Mini Me™ Chartreuse Coleus and Angelface® Wedgwood Pink. It's easy to see that these new varieties are ideal options for gardeners to add color to their gardens all season long.



Angelonia
Angelface
Wedgwood
Pink



Portulaca
Mojave Mango



Supertunia
Mini Vista
Plum Veined



Supertunia
Tiara Blue



Coleus
ColorBlaze
Mini Me
Chartreuse



Petunia Supertunia
Tiara Pink

[View all 21 Top Pick plants
CLICK HERE](#)

NEW PLANT PICKS MADE EASY

With so many new varieties coming to market in the spring, it can be difficult to choose which varieties to offer customers. That's why Proven Winners selects Top Pick varieties in each category to represent the most outstanding and unique new plants. These selections are featured heavily throughout the multi-million-dollar advertising efforts on multiple platforms. This year's Top Picks include a fiery, intensely saturated rose, a super-sized salvia, an easy-to-grow heliotrope and more.

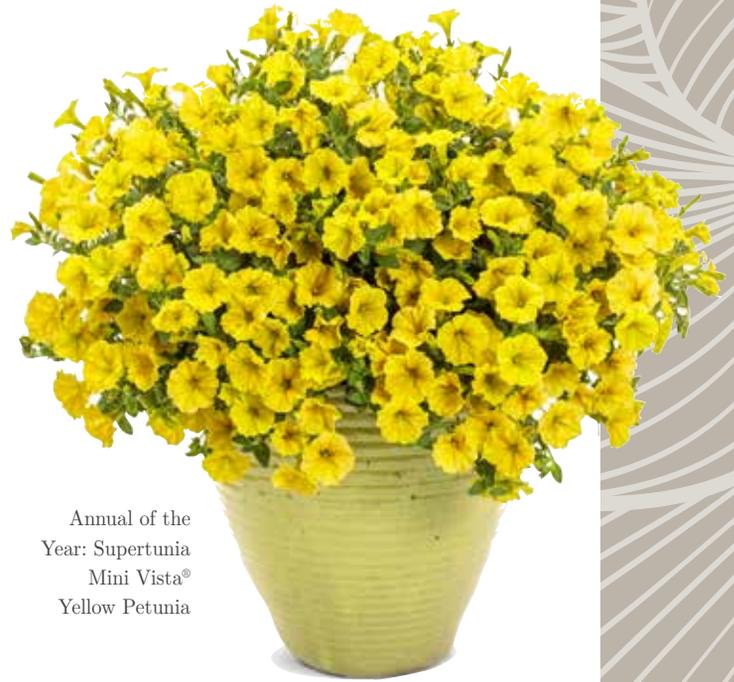
"Top Picks have outstanding consumer appeal thanks to their unique features, disease resistance, tolerance to heat and humidity, outstanding vigor and season-long performance," says Proven Winners Vice President of Sales Dave Konsoer. "These top-of-the-class varieties are sure to be gardeners' new favorite plants, earning them increased attention across our national marketing campaigns to build even more demand for 2025."

2025 PLANTS OF THE YEAR

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF NATIONAL MARKETING SUPPORT WITH THE 2025 PLANTS & RECIPES OF THE YEAR

The ever-popular National Plants and Recipes of the Year also make it easy to know which plants gardeners will be asking for by name. Beginning spring 2025, Proven Winners will dedicate significant consumer marketing dollars to build excitement and demand for these varieties, so growers and retailers can be sure they'll be in high demand.

"Proven Winners' National Plants of the Year are going to be top of mind for gardeners next spring and we couldn't be more excited about showcasing these exciting varieties," says Marshall Dirks, vice president of marketing. "Thanks to outstanding genetics and extensive trialing, we're confident these varieties are some of the best options out there."



Annual of the
Year: Supertunia
Mini Vista®
Yellow Petunia



Rose of the Year: Reminiscent® Coral Rosa



Hydrangea of the Year: Little Lime Punch® Panicle Hydrangea



Landscape Perennial of the Year: 'Cat's Meow' Nepeta



Perennial of the Year:
'Jack of Diamonds' Heartleaf Brunnera



Hosta of the Year:
Shadowland® 'Miss America' Hosta



Caladium of the Year: Heart to Hear®
'Blushing Bride' Sun or Shade Caladium



Landscape Shrub of the Year:
North Pole® Arborvitae



Houseplant of the Year PrismaColor™
Orange You Gorgeous™ Philodendron



Tree of the Year: Show Time™
Crabapple Malus X

2025 NATIONAL RECIPES



Vista View



Champagne
Toast



Strawberry
Stand



Ireland



HC x CHG

Leading sustainable solutions for horticulture

Article Submitted By The HC Companies and Classic Home & Garden

In today's rapidly changing world, sustainability is no longer a nice-to-have—it's an absolute necessity. As environmental regulations tighten across the U.S. and Canada, companies must continuously adapt. HCxCHG, a horticultural leader in sustainability, is making it easier for businesses to navigate this evolving landscape by offering innovative, eco-friendly products that comply with the latest Post-Consumer Recycled standards.

PCR EXPERTISE: HARNESSING RECYCLED MATERIALS

A cornerstone of HCxCHG's sustainability efforts is its use of post-consumer recycled (PCR) materials. PCR content consists of materials recycled from everyday consumer items such as aluminum, cardboard, paper, and plastic bottles.

Containers are crafted with at least 10% PCR content, significantly reducing reliance on virgin plastics. 90% of HCxCHG products are manufactured with eco-friendly, sustainable material. By using more PCR in our products, we are doing our part to encourage the growth of consumer recycling practices and lower the risk of plastic pollution in the environment. This helps minimize plastic waste while ensuring that businesses that use HCxCHG products are automatically compliant with current regulations.

But HCxCHG doesn't stop at today's standards. By staying informed on the latest environmental guidelines, they help businesses anticipate and meet future regulatory demands with ease. By keeping a record of the upcoming changes in regulations, HCxCHG is always adjusting the process to ensure all up-to-date regulations are being met. Whether you're working to meet state-level mandates or setting ambitious sustainability targets, HCxCHG takes the guesswork out of the equation.

Navigating complex regulations can be challenging. Governments and forward-thinking companies are demanding PCR content in products to combat plastic pollution – including growing containers. Several states in the US are implementing new standards for PCR regulations – including New Jersey, California, Maine, Oregon, and Colorado. Canada is also committed to achieving zero plastic waste by 2030.

HCxCHG's supply chain is certified by recognized third-party organizations, so customers can put their trust in the products they're buying. These certifications not only offer peace of mind but also provide a competitive edge, allowing companies to appeal to eco-conscious consumers.

ESG SUPPORT: PARTNERING FOR SUSTAINABILITY

HCxCHG goes above and beyond providing eco-friendly containers to consumers. Expert Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) support is available to help businesses meet evolving demands for sustainability from stakeholders and customers alike. HCxCHG is your go-to for ESG support, providing expert guidance and credible product certifications for sustainability focused customers and stakeholders.

BIOBASED ALTERNATIVES: ECO-FRIENDLY SOLUTIONS

In addition to their PCR products, HCxCHG offers biobased and compostable alternatives for companies looking to go even greener. Their Ecogrow and BioPax lines are plastic-free, biodegradable, and made from plant-based materials, offering a sustainable solution for the horticultural industry.

These products are ideal for markets focused on reducing plastic waste, providing consumers with a durable, compostable alternative to traditional plastic growing containers. This makes them perfect for businesses seeking environmentally responsible solutions that also align with consumer demand for greener products.

LOOKING TOWARD A GREENER FUTURE

At HCxCHG, sustainability is a shared journey. Providing customers with the products, expertise, and guidance needed to reduce environmental impact while maintaining high standards of quality. Whether you're starting your sustainability efforts or enhancing existing practices, HCxCHG offers a path forward. Partner with HCxCHG to stay up to date on PCR regulations.

HCxCHG doesn't just talk sustainability – We live it!

Griffin Expo

To all our customers and our partners:

We want to sincerely thank you for attending and making this year's Expos a tremendous success! With the conclusion of yet another fantastic year, as well as our additional Expo in Reno, NV, we are incredibly grateful for your continued support and participation.

As your family-owned single source supplier, we hope you were able to find great deals, connect with new opportunities, and enjoyed our special Customer Appreciation Night at Supercharged and our Bowling night in Reno, NV. It was a pleasure hosting you, and we hope the experience was both enjoyable and rewarding.

Your presence plays a vital role, and we look forward to welcoming you back for future expos.

*Warm regards,
The Griffin Team*







IPM USING

Biocontrol Agents and Biopesticides

By Joanne Lutz and Elwood Roberts, Technical Support Specialist, GGSPRO

Today's article is a follow-up to our earlier piece, "Beneficials & Pesticides – A Dynamic Duo." It serves as a planning guide for selecting biopesticides that are most compatible with biocontrol agents (BCA), along with tips for incorporating them at different growth stages of the crop. Naturally, some aspects are crop-dependent; not all crops bloom, crop cycles vary in length, and not all operations propagate their own materials. However, understanding the basic framework will aid in developing an IPM* strategy that optimizes all available tools, enhancing their overall efficiency.

* IPM is known as Integrated Pest Management



BIOS & CHEMICAL CORRECTIONS

All biologicals, whether insect biocontrol agent or biopesticide are better used as a preventative for reasons we will describe in further detail below. Using these products early in the cycle also protects conventional chemical formulations from overuse and development of chemical resistance in the pest population. That saves conventional chemistry for cleanup before sales or allows for their use as a “rescue” application if there is outbreak.

It is important to remember that all products are not labeled for all crops, especially in cannabis, so it will be up to the grower to make choices that follow the regulations in their crop and in their state.

A LOOK AT A CONTEMPORARY TOOLBOX

The goal is to establish biocontrol agents in the crop for the life of the crop. As noted in the earlier article, BCAs may not provide sufficient control on their own, and we can gain additional control using a compatible spray program.

Bioinsecticides are a class of pesticides where the active ingredient is one or more microorganisms or a microorganism’s byproduct, derived from fungi, bacteria, or plants. Bioinsecticides have short restricted entry intervals (REIs), little to no preharvest intervals (PHIs), and generally no limits to the number of applications on given crop or within a crop cycle, as there is no documented resistance in the target pest populations and considered safe to humans. For added benefit, they are generally gentler on beneficial insects than conventional chemistries. Fungal-based agents attack the insect’s exoskeleton, while bacteria need to be ingested or enter through an opening on the pest. This naturally occurring process takes time, sometimes several days to see results. Microbial insecticides have short residuals, so it is necessary to make multiple applications to keep a high level of the inoculum in the environment. To maximize the effectiveness of any microbial product, it is important to understand the environment where they work best and take advantage of those conditions that give the microorganisms an advantage:

- Ideal canopy humidity above 70% for an extended period
- Ideal temps between 65-70 degrees F
- Low light conditions

As discussed previously, there is a great deal of available conventional chemistry that is compatible with both BCAs and biopesticides. Griffin's GGSPRO team can produce a customized pesticide compatibility chart to compare chemistries for their residual and degree of toxicity for each of your BCA species. Some pesticides and fungicides are not compatible with BCAs but have a short residual effect, so they are still useful in this context as the BCAs and biopesticides can be reintroduced very soon after application. Many oils and 25b products are included in this group of "incompatible yet useful" pesticides.

PROCESS IN THE GREENHOUSE

Most CEA crops can be broken down into these crop stages, sometimes with their own specific environment. Intake, Propagation, Transplant/Vegetative, and Bloom. BCA releases provide the backbone of the pest management program, and biopesticides help with control without interfering with the BCAs. Bioinsecticides and biofungicides are easily tank-mixed and applied to the entire crop. Save conventional chemistry to use as a targeted application when correction is needed.

INTAKE STAGE

- Isolate new plant material when possible before introducing it to the general production areas
- Inspect material carefully
- Apply appropriately labeled products for dipping incoming material to start clean

PROPAGATION

- Bulk or loose BCA applications. Foliar dwelling BCAs may be influenced or compromised by heavy misting. Soil dwelling BCAs thrive in these sorts of environments
- Excellent environmental conditions for biopesticides
- Utilize some compatible conventional chemistries appropriate before first releases
- Integrate yellow sticky cards to capture adult flyers

TRANSPLANT/VEGETATIVE STAGE

- Loose BCA products provide good value, and flyers are efficient in young crops. Begin incorporating sachets to individual containers, blister packs and other slow-release systems
- Apply biopesticides regularly to prevent outbreaks, especially pathogen control. Treat soil in newly transplanted material. Biofungicides are easily tank mixed with bioinsecticides to maximize efficiency and reduce spraying labor needs
- Allocate compatible chemistry for targeted sprays in hot spot areas
- Scout weekly to see developing issues

BLOOM STAGE

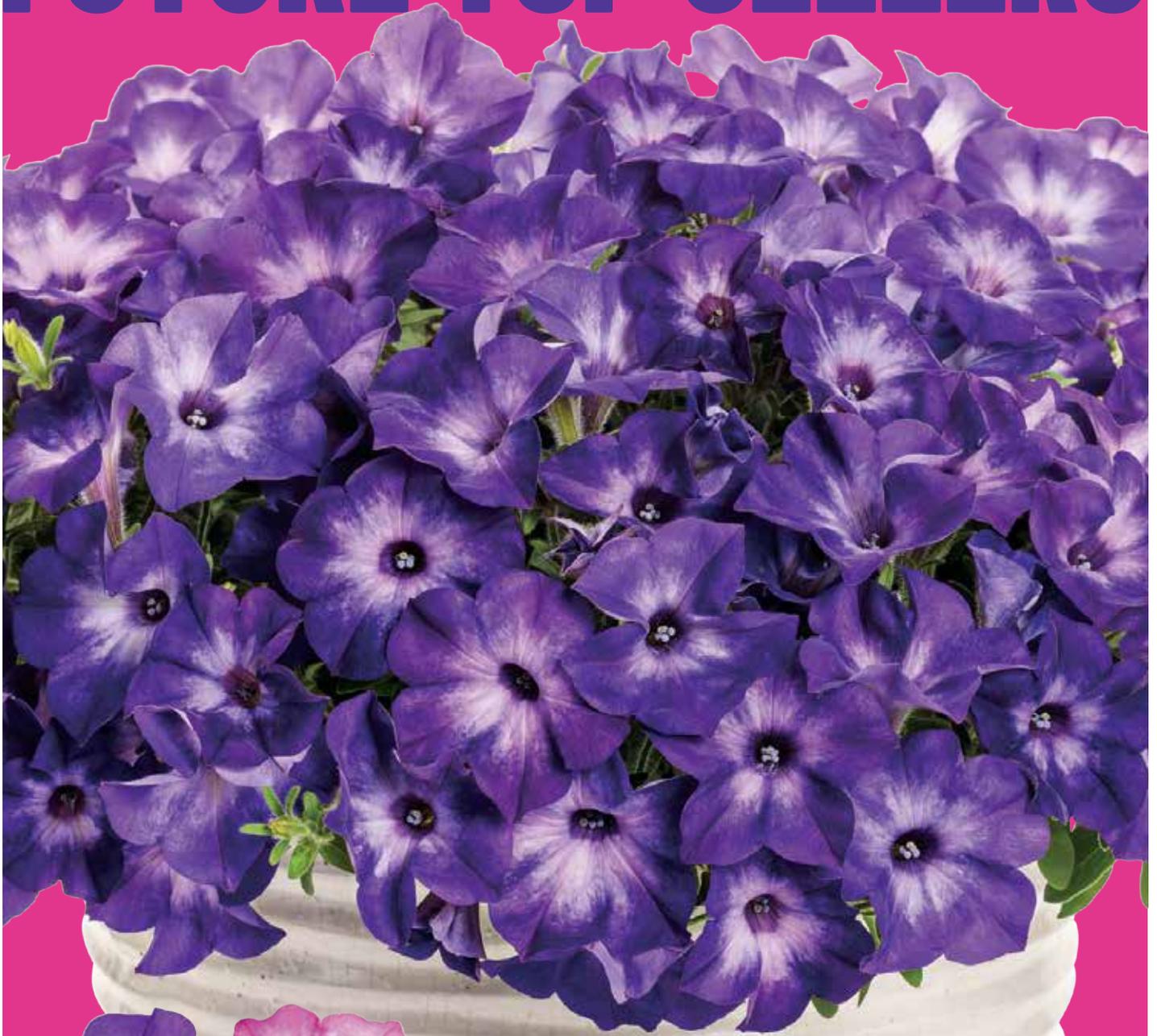
- Boost BCA rates for mature crops, because there is more biomass and potentially more resources for pests
- Biopesticides especially biofungicides can be heavily relied on as canopy closes making a more conducive environment for pathogen development
- Conventional chemistry now becomes useful for cleanup and rotating different modes of action is still important
- Monitoring yellow sticky cards is not enough as plants mature. Examine individual plants for pest presence

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Have a plan and all the tools on hand. Integrated pest management is a proactive strategy, and biologicals are better and more efficient as preventatives in all crops. As part of that preventative strategy, sanitation is key. A pest and pathogen-free environment increases efficiency and allows for fewer inputs at startup. Keep in mind that scouting is not optional for a successful IPM program. Understanding the current level of threat allows for better decision making.

As a Griffin customer, we encourage you to reach out to the GGSPRO team for questions and solutions at ggsprotech@griffinmail.com.

FUTURE TOP SELLERS



**Supertunia
Tiara™ Blue**
Petunia

**Supertunia
Tiara™ Pink**
Petunia

5 of our Top 10 best-selling
annuals are Supertunias.
These unique varieties are
sure to be best sellers in '25!



**Contact Your Local Griffin Rep
to Place Your Order Today!**

BOOST YOUR RETAIL SALES *with Brand Power*

By Hannah Sadosky, Retail Education Manager, Griffin

It's No Secret, Consumers Are Heavily Influenced By Brands And Gardening Is No Different

In the gardening industry, brand influence plays a significant role in retail consumer purchasing decisions. Proven Winners branded plants and the retail supporting products like Proven Winner soils, and fertilizers are sought after solutions to garden success. Aquapots® from Proven Winners, offer another solution to gardeners; self-watering, and smart water use. Gardening consumers gravitate to the Proven Winners brand not only from the brands strong marketing but also proven performance. Proven Winners is recognized as the #1 plant brand® and a market leader in North America.



PW
PROVEN WINNERS
 The #1 Plant Brand

PREMIUM ALL PURPOSE POTTING SOIL

GREAT FOR USE IN ALL BASKETS, POTS, CONTAINERS AND GARDEN BEDS

Feeds Plants Up to 6 Months!
 INCLUDES CONTINUOUS RELEASE PLANT FOOD

1.5 Cu Ft (42.5 L)

PW
PROVEN WINNERS
 The #1 Plant Brand

PREMIUM ALL PURPOSE POTTING SOIL

GREAT FOR USE IN ALL BASKETS, POTS, CONTAINERS AND GARDEN BEDS

Feeds Plants Up to 6 Months!
 INCLUDES CONTINUOUS RELEASE PLANT FOOD

0.13-0.05-0.10
16 QT (17.6 L)

PW
PROVEN WINNERS
 The #1 Plant Brand

PREMIUM WATER SOLUBLE

FOR FLOWERING PLANTS

24-12-17- MINORS
2.5 Lb (1.13 kg)

PW
PROVEN WINNERS
 The #1 Plant Brand

PREMIUM CONTINUOUS RELEASE PLANT FOOD

FOR FLOWERING PLANTS

15-7-15- MINORS
Feeds for Up to 6 Months
2.0 oz (57 g)

Remember in retail sales, all plants need food, water, and soil. Proven Winners Premium All Purpose potting soil is manufactured by Sungro, can be purchased through Griffin to stock your shelves and provide the complete solution to your customers gardening success! Proven Winners water soluble plant food 24-12-17 is another sought after counterpart to consumer gardening. Water soluble plant food provides plants with a quick boost of food needed for powering flowers. The unique 24-12-17 NPK formulation includes the "EDDHA" form of Iron, allowing plants to use Iron efficiently at wide pH ranges. This water-soluble plant food starts immediately feeding in containers, landscape beds, and even indoor plants! Another retail plant food, Proven Winners Time Release Plant Food, this 15-7-15 NPK ratio is designed to maximize flowering and plant growth, which releases nutrients over a 6-month period.

RETAIL TIP:

Stack both time release and water soluble plant food next to your register for additional sales opportunities!



save ON THESE PRODUCTS

Proven Winners 2.5 lb Premium Water Soluble Plant Food

Item: #81000001
CS/UOS: 12/12
Special: \$10.92

Proven Winners 2.5 lb Premium Continuous Release Plant Food

Item: #81000002
CS/UOS: 12/12
Special: \$13.84

Savings through 11/30/24
Promo Code: GAZ24





Another item backed with Proven Winners brand power are new AquaPots® Lite self watering planters. The new AquaPots® Lite version offers the convenience of self-watering AquaPots® in a lighter-weight, more economical option. As many areas of the country continue to face long periods of drought, container solutions that maximize the water sent to plants are key. What we love most about Aquapots® Lite is unlike heavy ceramic, these are easier to maintain and handle. Offered separately for sale are both round or square AquaPots® inserts. This allows gardeners to make nearly any container an Aquapost®. Simply place the insert in the container, and extend out the watering tube. Then, pack soil into the wick area and then fill the rest of your planter with soil and plants. Proven Winners recommends watering plants directly with a hose for the first 1-2 weeks, so the plant's roots grow enough to soak up water. There is even an overflow valve, which ensures plants cannot be overwatered, even in heavy rain. Aquapots® are heavily marketed to retail consumers and continue to be sought after by gardeners. Aquapots® Lite planters are new to Griffins Retail offering, and we are still booking for 2025!



AQUAPOTS® LITE

WATERING MADE EASY™



Do you test your IRRIGATION POND WATER

we suggest you do

Article Submitted By Molear

Irrigation ponds are a great way to store water, but they aren't without their challenges. Growers who use irrigation ponds experience issues with:

Low levels of dissolved oxygen (DO)

Algae blooms and filtration clogging

Pathogens and biofilm



IRRIGATION PONDS RESEMBLE NATURAL WATERBODIES

Like lakes and other natural waterbodies, irrigation ponds have natural biological and chemical processes. For example, excess nutrients, specifically Nitrogen and Phosphorus, impact lake health and contribute to excess algal blooms and poor water quality.

When algae die, the decomposition process consumes oxygen, creating hypoxic conditions that suppress the beneficial microbiology and reduce the oxidation-reduction potential (ORP) of the water. The result is poor water quality with low dissolved oxygen and high disease pressure that negatively affect crop quality, reduce yields and increase treatment costs.

Though irrigation water is one of the most important inputs and resources for growers, it's often the least monitored of all the inputs. Integrating a simple monitoring plan helps growers get more from their water, leading to better water quality and ultimately, higher quality crops.

KEY WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS FOR GROWERS TO TEST ON IRRIGATION PONDS

- **pH:** pH is a measure of the acidity or alkalinity of water. Changes in pH can affect the solubility of nutrients and the toxicity of certain substances to aquatic organisms.
- **Electrical conductivity (EC):** EC is a measurement of a substance's ability to conduct electricity, and is an important factor in irrigation water quality
- **Dissolved oxygen (DO) concentrations:** Oxygen concentrations levels when measured close to the bottom of the pond will help you understand if your water is anaerobic or aerobic which is a key driver in not only pond health but pathogen growth.
- **Water temperature:** The temperature of the water impacts the water's ability to hold DO (e.g. higher temperatures means lower oxygen holding capacity).
- **Oxidation-reduction potential (ORP):** ORP is an important water quality parameter that can provide insight into the oxygen levels and other chemical reactions occurring in the water. ORP is primarily determined by the balance between the amount of dissolved oxygen (a strong oxidizing agent) and other substances that can act as reducing agents, such as organic matter, hydrogen sulfide, and iron. When ORP is high, oxidizers have higher residual. Conversely, growers need to use higher rates of oxidizers to achieve the same residual when ORP is low.

- **Biological chemical demand (BOD):** BOD measures the amount of dissolved oxygen needed by bacteria to decompose organic matter in the water. For example, as algae dies and decomposes, BOD will increase, showing growers that more oxygen is needed to maintain the water quality.
- **Total bacterial and fungal counts:** Tests should be taken from multiple locations in the water to get a general average. These metrics can be used to look at potential disease pressure.
- **Total Nitrogen and Phosphorus:** These are key nutrients in waterbody health. When in high concentrations, N and P greatly contribute to several pond problems.

COMBATting COMMON POND PROBLEMS WITH CHEMICAL-FREE NANOBUBBLES

Understanding water testing parameters is the first step to improving your irrigation pond water quality. The next step is a sustainable Integrated Pest Management (IPM) treatment strategy.

Moleaer is working with growers all over the world to treat their irrigation ponds without or with reduced chemicals and lower costs. We do this by deploying our patented nanobubble technology on irrigation ponds for IPM prevention and cultural controls:

Cultural control: Nanobubbles increase DO and ORP to create an oxygen-rich environment for beneficial microbes to do their work, naturally digesting mucky sediment and decomposing algae. Over time, BOD, total bacterial and fungal counts and N & P levels decline, reducing the fuel for algae blooms and lowering disease pressure.

Prevention: Once pond health is back on track, nanobubbles maintain optimal water conditions to increase resilience against algae and pathogen outbreaks by maintaining elevated DO and ORP.

THE RESULTS:

- Less algae, pathogens and biofilm
- Fewer chemicals and pesticide applications
- Longer filtration life and less clogging
- Healthier plant root development and better crop quality

Griffin is a trusted distributor of Moleaer's nanobubble technology, enabling more growers to reap the benefits of this unique irrigation solution. To find out more about Moleaer's technology, visit Moleaer's product page: <https://www.moleaer.com/products/#horticulture>.

THE REBATE RIPPLE EFFECT

ONLY WITH GREENTRUST® 365

Start with the **ENHANCED Double Up Bonus** featuring **Mainspring® Xtra**, our **LATEST dual-ingredient insecticide**, and watch your savings just keep on going.



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CHEMISTRY EARLY ORDER *Savings*

Purchase Your Crop Protection and Fertilizer Needs

Griffin is excited to announce the best time of year to purchase your crop protection and fertilizer needs. This program allows for you to take advantage of great offers from our partners and June terms on all of your chemistry. With Syngenta GreenTrust 365, you can lock in your rebate for purchases all year round.

Check out these great programs:

Programs	Discounts/Rebates	Minimum Qualifying Order	Payment Terms	Term Code
OHP Fall Grower Special	Up to 15% off invoice	N/A	Net June 6, 2025	59
NuFarm Edge Rewards	Rebates up to 22%	\$3,000.00 and 2 brands	Net June 6, 2025	59
Envu Ornamental EOP	Rebates up to 23%	\$5,000.00	Net June 6, 2025	59
BASF Fall Grower Event	5%-15% off invoice	N/A	Net June 6, 2025	59
SePro Pinnacle EOP Rewards	Rebates up to 18%	\$2,500.00 and 2 brands	Net June 6, 2025	59
Syngenta GreenTrust 365	Rebates up to 23%	\$5,000.00	Net June 20, 2025	5Y

Please pay attention to ordering and invoicing windows, and know that some programs offer additional bonuses based on the timing of the order.

Programs	Program Start Date	Order Deadlines	Delivered By	Additional Bonus When Purchased By
OHP Fall Grower Special	8/26/2024	11/30/2024	Invoiced by 11/30/2024	
NuFarm Edge Rewards	9/1/2024	12/6/2024	Invoiced by Period 2 12/6/24	Period 1 October 31, 2024
Envu Ornamental EOP	9/1/2024	11/15/2024	Invoiced by 11/15/24	September 30, 2024
BASF Fall Grower Event	10/1/2024	12/6/2024	Invoiced by 12/6/24	
SePro Pinnacle EOP Rewards	10/1/2024	12/6/2024	Invoiced by 12/6/2024	
Syngenta GreenTrust 365	10/1/2024	12/10/2024	Invoiced by 12/10/24	October 31, 2024

Check out these great deals when you purchase by program end and take advantage of June 6, 2025 terms. Terms Code 59

DISCOVER WHY OVER 1000 GROWERS ARE USING NANOBUBBLE TECHNOLOGY IN THEIR IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

Get More From Your Irrigation Water With This One Tool

Cost savings and crop improvements

- ✓ Increase and stabilize dissolved oxygen levels
- ✓ Reduce biofilm and clogged emitters
- ✓ Suppress water-borne pathogens
- ✓ Increase nutrient uptake efficiency
- ✓ Improve input efficiency for reduced costs

➔ **Achieve better crops while maximizing efficiency and reducing inputs**

“ Before, cleaning the filters needed to be completed every four weeks, however, after installing the nanobubble generator that frequency has gone down quite a bit. Washing the sand filter of the fertilizer unit now needs to be done a lot less often as well. The day tank with irrigation water remained clear, almost without any trace of organic contamination. Upon visual inspection during cultivation, the part of the trays treated with Moleaer nanobubbles had a lot more young, thin roots at the bottom of the substrate. ”

– Michiel Penninx, Lead Grower at Aardbeienkwekerij Penninx



Reduce Irrigation Pond Headaches with the Synergistic Benefits of Moleaer's Technology

Solve complex water challenges with one cost-effective tool

- ✓ Prevent and reduce algae and biofilm
- ✓ Reduce pathogens before they reach your irrigation system
- ✓ Lower chemical usage and make chemistry more effective
- ✓ Higher dissolved oxygen promotes healthier roots and better yields

➔ **Optimize your pond water for healthier, more resilient crops**

“ We sought a solution for our muck and water quality issues in our irrigation pond and worked with Moleaer through our Griffin representative to install their nanobubble technology. Moleaer helped us evaluate our irrigation pond and provided support throughout the entire process. After a simple installation of Moleaer's nanobubble generator a few months ago, the unit has been running great, and we expect long-term benefits during the warmer season. ”

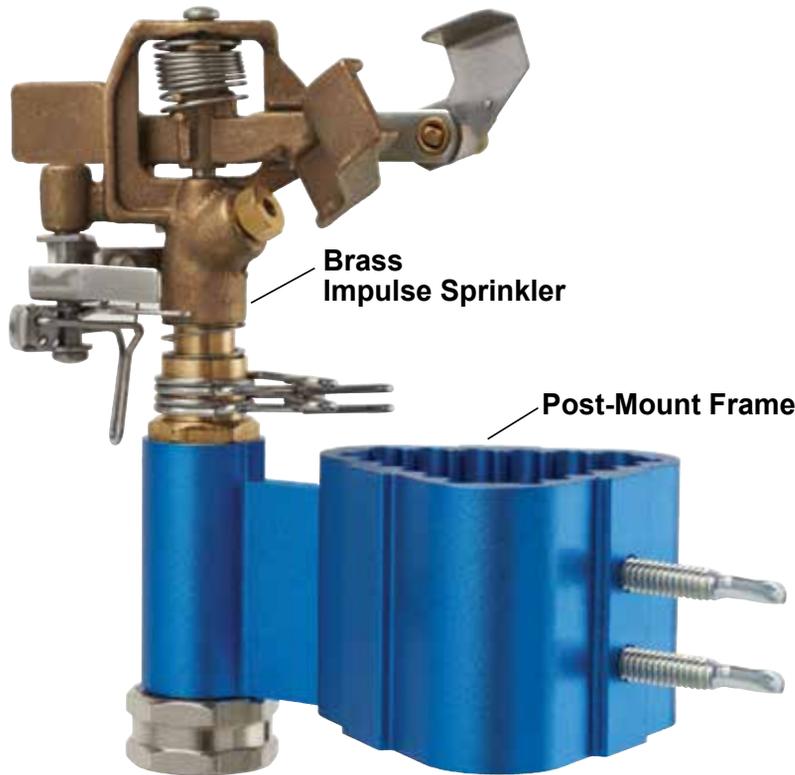
– Walnut Springs Nursery Inc.



New for 2025

Post-Mount Impulse Sprinkler & High Flow Twin Shut-Off

Attach to Existing Fence Post to Shower Your Plants with a Rain-Like Pattern



Post-Mount Sprinkler



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High Flow Twin Shut-Off

Full, Unrestricted Flow



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at One Time**

DRAMM
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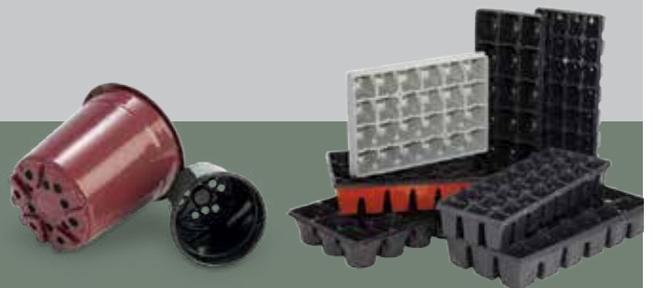


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