

Chat ROOM

Editor's Note: Each month, we send out a survey to our readers on a variety of topics and report the results here. Chat Room is a perfect venue to get to know your peers and where you stand on different issues affecting the industry. Do you have a question you want us to ask? Contact editor, Jasmina Dolce, at jdolce@greatamericanpublish.com.

This month, we asked readers about houseplant production, youth-focused horticulture initiatives, using fungicides and the poinsettia season. Here's what they had to say.

Do you grow/sell houseplants?

57% SAID YES!

Have you experienced any challenges with houseplant production?

Learn more about houseplants on page 16.

YOU SAID:

“ Keeping them in stock; sales are fast and increasing!

“ **PESTS!** Houseplants really can store a lot of bugs. The sources for houseplants seemed to have issues in 2021. We had to dump a lot early in the season for a loss.

“ Sourcing of quality reasonably priced plants. There is not a lot of supply available for smaller operations.

“ Just keeping them cleaned and watered.

Does your operation rotate fungicides as part of your disease management program?

70% SAID YES!

What is your biggest challenge when it comes to using fungicides?

Turn to page 20 for more information about fungicides.

“ Preparing the current quantity of the mix in order to have small leftover.

“ Keeping the crop from any toxicity.

“ Being able to rotate with a different FRAC code.

“ Timely applications.

“ Managing rotation to avoid resistance.

Are you interested in participating in initiatives designed to engage children in gardening and horticulture?

56% SAID YES!

Have you taken part in any kid-friendly activities/events?

“ We talk to classes and have tours of kids here at the nursery.

“ Butterfly release is most popular.

“ Girl scout troop toured the greenhouses, and planted small annual pots to take home.

“ We created programs not only for remote learning but for in-school programs as well.

“ Mother's Day potting.

Find information on kid-friendly horticulture programs on page 24.

How many products are in your rotation program?

13%

30%
four to five products

more than five

56%
two to three products

Winter is here! Does your operation grow/sell poinsettias?

40% SAID YES!

The top poinsettia colors you offer are:

82%
Red

77%
White

64%
Marbled/speckled

73%
Pink

What other winter/holiday crops do you grow/sell?

YOU SAID:

→ Christmas cactus

→ Cyclamen

→ Amaryllis

→ Foliage and succulents

→ Cut flowers