

Specialty Cut Flowers

Growing, Fertilization, Insect and
Disease Control, Water, Heat, Light



Steve Bogash
Regional Horticulture Educator
Penn State Cooperative Extension

Production Considerations

- Site Selection
- Planting*
- Irrigation*
- Pest management*
- Fertilization*
- Refrigeration
- Equipment
- Wind Protection and Support*
- Post Harvest Care
- Lighting*



Pest Management

- Weeds
- Insects
- Diseases
- Deer



Weed Management

- Best option: well prepared planting bed w/plastic and straw mulch
- Pre-emergent herbicides
 - *Note: Give out table*
- Post-emergent herbicides
- Flame Weeding





Wick Stick for postemergent materials



Insect Management

- Insecticidal Soap
- Horticultural Oils
- Carbamate: Sevin
- Malathion
- Neem Extracts



Other soft insecticides



Slug Control



EscarGo: Gardens Alive



Disease Management

- Primary diseases:
 - Powdery Mildew
 - Downy Mildew
 - Botrytis (Gray mold)
 - Root rots



Powdery Mildew on Dahlia

Some primary disease management materials



Chlorothalonil
AKA: Daconil
Funginex.....



Phosphonic Acid
AKA: Topaz,
ProPhyte,
Phostrol



Copper AKA:
Champ, Tenncop,
Phyton 27, Kocide
2000...

Root borne disease management

- Crop rotation
- Sanitation
- High Quality potting media
- Disease free seeds and starts
- Careful irrigation
- Tricoderma hazarium T-22
 - Plant Shield



Deer Control

- Scare devices
- Low electric fence
- 7.5-10' fence
- Slant Fence
- Dogs with electric collars
- Repellants



Fertilization

- Annuals: Balanced fertilizers fed regularly
 - 20-20-20, 10-10-10, 5-10-10
 - Constant feed 100+ppm
- Perennials: Feed at dormancy and again at break of dormancy
 - High P for best blooms
- Most cuts perform best at pH of 6.2-7.0
- Don't feed woodies until fully dormant

Wind & Rain protection

- High Tunnels
- Windbreaks
- HortoNova mesh



Planting

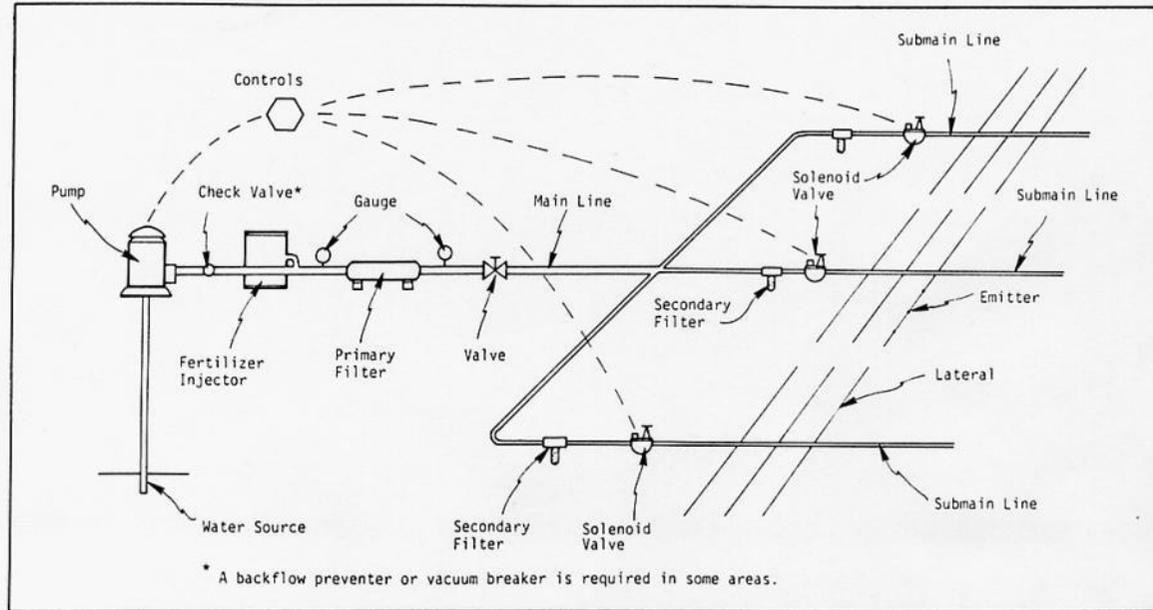
- Spacing
- Method
- Plug size
- Succession
- Season



Irrigation

- Drip is best!
- Strongly suggested
 - Affects yields
 - Required for good stems
 - Affects quality
 - Timing is critical

Figure 7. Trickle Irrigation System Components



Lighting



Sunrich Orange
1 week apart



Sunflower Planting Date Trial



Sunrich Orange planted 1 week apart
Date 9/8/08

Cutting Beds



Where to get information

- Growing for Market Magazine
- Penn State Statewide Trials:
 - SE Research Farm, Landisville
- Assoc. of Specialty Cut Flower Growers
 - ASCFG
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Thank you!

Your questions, comments
and rebuttals are welcome!

Steve Bogash

717-263-9226,
smb13@psu.edu

Lisianthus Balboa Rose

