



by Brian E. Whipper
bwhipker@ncsu.edu

Year 4 Begins: e-GRO Alert Starts New Production Season

We have expanded to include 10 Floriculture Extension Specialists: Drs. Chris Currey of Iowa State University and Neil Mattson of Cornell University. In addition, we would like to thank this season's sponsors: American Floral Endowment, Griffin Greenhouse Supplies, Philips, and Fine Americas.

We are back for the 2015 spring season with the fourth year of e-GRO Alert. We have also added two new contributors: Dr. Chris Currey of Iowa State University and Dr. Neil Mattson of Cornell University. So now the team includes 10 extension specialists from eight states.

The goal of the newsletter is to let growers know of insect, disease, nutritional, or physiological growth situations that are occurring in production greenhouses. So then you know what to be on the look out for.

We will send out weekly updates during the spring 2015 cropping cycle starting in the week of Janu-

2015 Sponsors

e-GRO Electronic Grower Resources Online

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Welcome to e-GRO

e-GRO (Electronic Grower Resources Online) is a collaborative effort of floriculture specialists to create a new clearing house for alerts about disease, insect, environmental, physiological and nutritional disorders being observed in commercial greenhouses. Information is available about disorders, podcasts, and research.

Bringing together some of the leading specialists from universities around the USA, e-GRO is a free resource and learning tool for anybody involved in greenhouse plant production.

Figure 1. The e-GRO.org website now also includes Research Reports and will host recordings of our webinars. Also check out e-GRO University for training videos.

e-GRO Alert

www.e-gro.org

CONTRIBUTORS

Dr. Nora Catlin
Floriculture Specialist
Cornell Cooperative Extension -
Suffolk County
nora.catlin@cornell.edu

Dr. Chris Currey
Assistant Professor of Floriculture
Iowa State University
ccurrey@iastate.edu

Dr. Kristin Getter
Floriculture Outreach Specialist
Michigan State University
getterk@msu.edu

Dan Gilrein
Entomology Specialist
Cornell Cooperative Extension -
Suffolk County
dog1@cornell.edu

Dr. Brian Krug
Floriculture Ext. Specialist
Univ. New Hampshire
brian.krug@unh.edu

Dr. Joyce Latimer
Floriculture Extension & Research
Virginia Tech
jlatime@vt.edu

Dr. Roberto Lopez
Floriculture Extension & Research
Purdue University
rglopez@purdue.edu

Dr. Neil Mattson
Greenhouse Research & Extension
Cornell University
neil.mattson@cornell.edu

Dr. Paul Thomas
Floriculture Extension & Research
University of Georgia
pathomas@uga.edu

Dr. Brian Whipker
Floriculture Extension & Research
NC State University
bwhipker@ncsu.edu

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ary 19th through mid-May. The format will focus on a single problem, management strategies, and contain color photographs. This format will make all articles searchable on our website (e-gro.org). You will receive an email notification that a new article is posted on the website. Then you can download the article if it is of interest. To subscribe to the newsletter, go to the following web address (<http://e-gro.com/alerts.php>), and click on the orange SUBSCRIBE button.

We would like to thank the American Floral Endowment, Philips, Griffin Greenhouse Supplies, Inc, and Fine Americas for providing funding for this years newsletter.

Also, check out our **webinar schedule** under the Webinar tab. The Webinars will be recorded, so you can also watch them later if desired.

Want to find out what cool, new things we are involved in? We also have a new addition of **Research Reports** to keep you updated.

Here is a brief introduction to who will be contributing.



Nora Catlin - Earned a Ph.D. in Plant, Soils, and Insect Science from the University of Massachusetts Amherst (2005). She joined Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County in 2005 as the Floriculture Specialist where she has extension and research responsibilities. Through educational programs and publications, applied research and demonstrations, as well as individual consultations, Nora provides Long Island growers of greenhouse and floriculture crops with up-to-date information and recommendations for crop selection, crop production, pest identification and management, business management, environmental issues, and applicable regulations.

Cooperating Universities



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
of Suffolk County



THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
**COOPERATIVE
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College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
College of Family and Consumer Sciences



In cooperation with our
local and state greenhouse
organizations



Chris Currey - Chris is an Assistant Professor of Horticulture in the Department of Horticulture at Iowa State University specializing in greenhouse and controlled-environment crop production. His research focuses on

alternative greenhouse cropping systems, including hydroponic culinary herb production, alternative mineral nutrition and fertilization strategies, and new uses for plant growth regulators. In addition to research, Chris also teaches four courses on greenhouse operations and management, hydroponic food crop production, and spring and fall ornamental greenhouse crop production. His extension program is focused on providing support for greenhouse growers in the Upper Midwest.



Figure 2. The goal of e-GRO Alert is to keep you informed about possible production problems.



Kristin Getter - Kristin is a Floriculture Outreach Specialist at Michigan State University with an 85% outreach and 15% research appointment. Her current research focus is on marketing ornamentals and applied production problems. Kristin provides Michigan floriculture greenhouse growers with up-to-date information and recommendations for crop production and business management by offering educational programs, individual consultations, and publications.



Dan Gilrein - Extension Entomologist with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County at the Long Island Horticultural Research and Extension Center, Riverhead, NY since 1995 and previously served there as IPM Specialist with Cornell from 1987. In his current position he conducts applied research on control of arthropod pests in food crops and on ornamental plants, provides diagnostic services to the horticultural industries, and conducts educational programs and presentations for industry, government officials, civic groups and the public on pests and pest management.



Brian A. Krug - Extension Assistant Professor/Specialist at the University of New Hampshire. His research foci have been the use of plant growth regulators on bedding and potted crops and plant nutrition. In addition to his research activities he is active in using technologies such as computers and the Internet to deliver information and tools to growers in the floriculture industry. Examples of his work in this area include the FloriCAST podcast series and the GroCALC software package. Brian has authored 35 journal articles, and 50 magazine/extension publications.



Joyce Latimer - Professor and Floriculture Extension Specialist at Virginia Tech University. She specializes in perennials, from production, problem solving, and plant growth regulators. She also works with greenhouse energy conservation and greenhouse vegetable production.



Roberto G. Lopez - Associate Professor and Floriculture Extension Specialist at Purdue University. His principle research interests are: environmental stress and flowering physiology, sustainable and controlled environment greenhouse propagation and production, growth regulation, and production and marketing of new crops. Roberto has authored 28 scientific journal publications and 55 trade magazine and extension articles.



Neil Mattson - Associate Professor and Greenhouse Extension Specialist at Cornell University. Neil serves the greenhouse industry by conducting applied research and outreach related to increasing greenhouse production efficiency while decreasing energy, water, and fertilizer consumption. Recent research areas include: use of granular slow release fertilizer in bedding plant and vegetable transplant production, greenhouse supplemental lighting for vegetable crops, finishing bedding plants in unheated high tunnels, and practices to enhance the retail shelf life of bedding plants.



Paul Thomas - Professor of floriculture at the University of Georgia. His research focuses on commercial bedding plant and perennial production with emphasis on cultural improvement of pansies and vinca, growth control of container-grown perennials, and efficient use of fertility. He is also involved with extension and teaching two undergraduate classes.



Brian E. Whipker - Professor at NC State University working in the areas of plant nutrition, diagnostics and plant growth regulators. He has published 81 journal articles, a book on nutrient deficiencies of bedding plants, 34 book chapters and over 260 magazine articles.