

Burnabylake B.C. grow with Aqua-Hort



Background

Burnaby Lake Greenhouses in Surrey close to Vancouver is owned and managed by the Vander Ende family with the brothers Ken and Herb ken@burlake.com in charge of production. (Ken Vander Ende appears on the picture). The nursery was started in 1954, and has since grown to a big undertaking with 36 acres under glass and 250 employees. The nursery grows most of the common potted plants for indoor and spring garden planting.

Burnaby Lake Greenhouses operate their own fleet of trucks which brings the flowers to far away customers in Canada and the USA.

Installation

Seven Aqua-Hort units were installed at seven different nutrient mixers. The first Aqua-Hort was introduced in the autumn 2002. In 2003 six additional units were installed. The first unit was the standard 130 gpm with 90 mm pipes and 25 amp controls. The other six units were with 125 mm pipes and 50 amp controls which can handle 300 gpm. By this setup all the nutrition water in the recirculated irrigation systems (22 acres) is treated before entering the plants. The Aqua-Horts' start automatically when there is flow, handling is very easy.

Outcome

The first unit was installed in an area with Hedera, which is well known for Phytopthera attacks, causing great damage. Burnaby Lake Greenhouses noticed right away that the Hedera crop got better roots and the Phytopthera problems vanished. They therefore decided to go for full scale Aqua-Hort treatment of all nutrition water in the nursery.

Ken Vander Ende is clearly satisfied with the use of Aqua-Hort. In the daily production Aqua-Hort only is used for fungus prevention with good results. Good root development and strong plants are the consequence. He states: Aqua-Hort is extremely easy to use, no chemicals and no management work except for periodic checks of the system. The costs are very low indeed.

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