

PRESS RELEASE

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Production Tour Planned for New Jersey
Three Grower Operations Featured

Columbus, Ohio – AmericanHort announced today that it will host a tour this fall of growing facilities in the Southern New Jersey. The Field & Covered Production Tour, September 14-15, will provide growers the opportunity to see new techniques, gain a better understanding of industry trends, have an opportunity to learn best practices, and make valuable industry connections. Tour stops include Overdevest Nurseries, Centerton Nursery, and Lucas Greenhouses. Lucas Greenhouses is one of eight pilot sites for SANC (Systems Approach to Nursery Certification), so growers will have the opportunity to learn more about this harmonized, risk-based systems approach to nursery and greenhouse certification; what it means for the industry; and how to implement it in their operation.

Overdevest Nurseries, Bridgeton, New Jersey, is a wholesale grower that sells to independent garden centers and distributors within a 300-mile radius. Overdevest Nurseries grow more than 1,400 varieties of shrubs, trees, vines, and perennials on 210 acres, while container production involves more than 2.7 million square feet of covered growing space.

Centerton Nursery, Bridgeton, New Jersey, is a family-owned operation that produces nearly 1,000 types of container-grown hardy garden plants, including perennials, shrubs, vegetables, and herbs. Centerton Nursery sells exclusively to independent garden centers, franchises, farm and roadside markets, landscape contractors, and florists.

Lucas Greenhouses, Monroeville, New Jersey, known for its plant quality and customer service, sells to garden centers and landscapers. More than 1-million square feet of indoor growing facilities combine with more than 30 acres of outdoor production space to house Lucas Greenhouses' full line of best-selling annuals, mums, and poinsettias.

Information about the event, tour locations, and registration is available at AmericanHort.org/Tour.

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AmericanHort was formed in 2014 by the consolidation of the American Nursery & Landscape Association and OFA – The Association of Horticulture Professionals. With a combined history of 220+ years, AmericanHort supports nearly 16,000 member and affiliated businesses that include breeders, greenhouse and nursery growers, garden retailers, distributors, interior and exterior landscape professionals, florists, students, educators, researchers, manufacturers, and all of those who are part of the industry market chain. The horticulture industry's production, wholesale, retail, and landscape service components have annual sales of \$163 billion, and sustain over 1.15 million full- and part-time jobs. Our mission is to unite, promote, and advance the horticulture industry through advocacy, collaboration, connectivity, education, market development, and research. The association has offices in Columbus, Ohio for administration and member services, and in Washington, DC to facilitate government relations and research activities.