

## PROPAGATION POWER

We are continually striving for the most effective methods to increase the efficiency and consistency of our quality standard. Most recently, fundamental improvements to our potting process have afforded us an impressive increase in productivity and precision. With the help of Midas Nursery Solutions of Hillsboro, we were able to work with Da Ros, a company out of Italy, that specializes in the design and manufacturing of horticulture and nursery machinery. The initial result is proving these changes to be entirely worth the investment.

The old potting process included multiple stations of manual batch work. We would batch clean all our seedling containers, manually fill each flat with soil, manually create holes to plant the trees, and then plant each seedling. On a typical day, we would average about 300 plants per man hour. The new process begins outside of the propagation barn with a station that washes the seedling containers. A conveyor carries the clean containers into the barn where a Flat Filler fills each, removing any excess soil.



Next, a Pneumatic Dibbler creates the holes in which we will plant the seedlings. Further down the line, team members stand on either side of the conveyor and skillfully place plants until the container is full.

An added irrigation tunnel finalizes the potting process and the now fully planted container rolls outside of the barn, is placed on a trailer and taken to its proper greenhouse.



We are currently averaging 500-600 plants per man hour, depending on variety. The new stream lined process sets the pace, increases consistency, quality, and quantity all with the same

number of team members. Thousands of plants are being potted each day and our amazing team has dominated this major change. Their impressive ability to fine tune the process, adapt to ever changing situations, and effectively operate these machines is truly outstanding. We are encouraged and inspired by the numerous improvements happening all over Robinson Nursery. We look forward to finding even more ways to continue Growing Your Expectations.

