



On this page, *Greenhouse Grower* magazine highlights innovative ideas, submitted by real growers, concerning solutions to problems they've had at the bench-level in their greenhouses. We will be adding to this page as the ideas come in, so keep checking in for novel solutions to everyday problems from your fellow growers. To submit YOUR two cents to this page, email bpkenney@meistermedia.com.

Sail Away From Curtain Cables



"The article in April's *Greenhouse Grower* ("Curtain Checkup") was among the best on tech tips for greenhouses. Shade systems need constant watching or disaster will surely happen.

One area you didn't touch on was the drive cables themselves.

We have had shade curtains in use since 1987. The cables were the source of virtually every problem we had. We tried every flavor of galvanized and stainless cable with little improvement.

Then we had an idea. A couple of us are sailors, and new synthetic line for halyards is so good these days that we decided to replace one of the steel cables with 1/8" T-100 line from New England Ropes.

After watching this one line for six months we decided to replace every drive cable with it. That was over two years ago. We still check every pulley and cable every week, but gone are the wear problems as the line travels around the pulleys and we obviously don't have the cable problems of caging and broken strands we had before. Additionally the system is much quieter—a bonus we hadn't expected.

We haven't replaced a single pulley or cable since the new lines were installed!

Sincerely,
Serge Zimberoff

Got similar news that you can share, or would you like to read more tips and tricks from your fellow growers? Email bpkenney@meistermedia.com

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