

## Wadsworth's New Software

Wadsworth Control Systems has announced its new STEPsaver software for use with EnviroSTEP or MicroSTEP greenhouse computers. It works for any size grower, and has the power to manage large facilities. The program allows the greenhouse to be monitored from remote locations and growers can change equipment settings, conduct research, store settings for reuse, receive remote training and tech support and retain permanent data storage on the PC. For more information, visit [www.wadsworthcontrols.com](http://www.wadsworthcontrols.com).

## Blackmore Co. Expands

The Blackmore Co. in Belleville, Mich., expanded into a new warehouse facility in January. The addition was made to the existing equipment division building at the Belleville location. Company officials say the new space will allow for more efficient consolidation and shipment of the expanding product line of plug trays, specialty growing trays, Ellepot propagation trays and flats and inserts. It also will permit space for GreenCare fertilizer products and pre-made Ellepots. For more information, call 800-874-8660 or e-mail [info@blackmoreco.com](mailto:info@blackmoreco.com).



## Helpful Tips Available

Chase Research Gardens is offering two new informational guides to those in the industry. The first is "Problemas de plantas de cama," a Spanish guide to identifying bedding plant problems. It is a handy color ID card set that includes diseases, nutritional disorders, insects and phytotoxicity.

The second is the "2004 Guide to Ornamental Fungicides," a wall poster that reports trial results over the past 10 years. The best products for each disease are highlighted.

For more information, call 530-620-1624 or go to the Web site at [www.chaseresearchgardens.com](http://www.chaseresearchgardens.com).



## A-ROO Launches Site

A-ROO, a container and packaging company based in Strongsville, Ohio, has launched a new, interactive Web site with photos of almost every item available. Along with easy-to-use thumbnail photos, A-ROO has added a company site map that allows for quick and easy access to any area of the site. Check it out at [www.a-roo.com](http://www.a-roo.com).

## PlantFind Finds Partner

PlantFind recently announced a new partnership with Spectrum Net Designs, a company that offers everything from Internet access to Web design, Web hosting and CD business cards.

PlantFind offers online marketplaces for both green goods and allied products, automated requests for quotes (RFD), industry and news information and links to industry periodicals and guides, along with a customer support program. For more, visit [www.plantfind.com](http://www.plantfind.com).

## Upcoming Events

### April

17-24 NATIONAL GREENHOUSE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION SPRING MEETING – Amelia Island, Fla. Contact 800-792-6462; [www.ngma.com](http://www.ngma.com).

18-20 AHMA HARDWARE SHOW WITH LAWN AND GARDEN WORLD – McCormick Place, Chicago, Ill. Contact 800-723-9895; <http://ahmahardwareshow.com>.

20 GREENHOUSE MANAGEMENT AND DESIGN: CURRENT PRACTICES AND TRENDS – UCR Extension Center, Riverside, Calif. Contact 909.787.5804; fax 909.787.7374; e-mail [sciences@ucx.ucr.edu](mailto:sciences@ucx.ucr.edu); or visit [www.ucrextension.net/sciences/ag/greenhouse.html](http://www.ucrextension.net/sciences/ag/greenhouse.html).

### May

4-6 SPRING IMMEDIATE DELIVERY – AmericasMart, Atlanta, Ga. Contact 800-ATL-MART; or visit [www.americasmart.com](http://www.americasmart.com).

10-12 NATIONAL HARDWARE SHOW WITH LAWN AND GARDEN WORLD – Sands Expo and Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nev. Contact 203-840-5493; or visit [www.nationalhardwareshow.com](http://www.nationalhardwareshow.com).

15 GREENHOUSES: MAKE DOLLARS & SENSE – Montrose Pavilion, Montrose, Colo. Contact 970-708-2106; or visit [www.rmfu.org](http://www.rmfu.org).

### June

13-18 NORTH AMERICAN HORTICULTURAL SUPPLY ASSOCIATION 17TH ANNUAL MEETING – J.W. Marriott Resort, Cancun, Mexico. Contact 215-564-3484; e-mail [nahs@fernley.com](mailto:nahs@fernley.com); or visit [www.nahsa.org/index.htm](http://www.nahsa.org/index.htm).

15-17 OKLAHOMA GREENHOUSE PRODUCTION SHORT COURSE – OSU- Oklahoma City. Contact Oklahoma Greenhouse Growers' Association, 405-942-5276; fax 405-945-3382; [ohic@ionet.net](mailto:ohic@ionet.net); [www.ogga.org](http://www.ogga.org).

17-19 SUPER FLORAL SHOW – Charlotte, N.C. Contact 312-332-4650; [www.superfloralshow.com](http://www.superfloralshow.com).

23-26 SOUTHEAST GREENHOUSE CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW – Palmetto Expo Center, Greenville, S.C. Contact 877-927-2775; [www.sgcts.org](http://www.sgcts.org).

### July

5-8 PERENNIAL PLANT SYMPOSIUM AND TRADE SHOW – Grand Hyatt, New York, N.Y. Contact 614-771-8431; [www.perennialplant.org](http://www.perennialplant.org).

10-14 OFA SHORT COURSE – Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio. Contact OFA - An Association Of Floriculture Professionals, 614-487-1117; [www.ofa.org](http://www.ofa.org).

13-18 ANLA ANNUAL CONVENTION AND LEARNING RETREAT – Renaissance Wailea, Maui, Hawaii. Contact ANLA, 800-880-0343, [www.anla.org](http://www.anla.org).

### August

12-14 SNA 2004 – Atlanta, Ga. Contact 770-953-3311; [mail@mail.sna.org](mailto:mail@mail.sna.org); [www.sna.org](http://www.sna.org).

Visit [www.meistermedia.com/calendar/index.cgi](http://www.meistermedia.com/calendar/index.cgi) to search for more industry events and/or submit information for your own event.

# Capital Letter



## ■ Newsmakers



Dean



Marlow

Wadsworth Control Systems has promoted **Patricia Dean** to vice president of customer relations. It also has added three new members to its technical team: **Kathy Kelsey**, research and product development manager; **Monty Rivers**, product development; and **Gina Grahn**, technical support.

**Douglas Marlow** has joined Priva Computers Inc. as key accounts manager.

Eason Horticultural Resources, Inc., has added six new representatives to its sales force. **Jeff Bishop** covers New York; **Ron Brown** covers North Carolina and South Carolina; **Rick Andrews** covers Missouri and special accounts in Kansas and Illinois; **Ron Klein** covers select accounts in Ohio and Kentucky; **Kurt Elders** covers Western Michigan; and **Alex Buckallew** covers Southeast Ohio, West Virginia and Virginia.

Agri-Starts, Inc., has hired **Ashley Johnson** in customer service and **Jennifer Parrish** as a national sales representative.

Syngenta Professional Products has hired **Scott Trbovich** on the turf and ornamentals sales team representing Michigan.

**Terra Nigra B.V.** will open its new facilities at its consolidated headquarters in Mijnsherenweg, The Netherlands, on April 3. Visit [www.terranigra.com](http://www.terranigra.com).

## **Compensation Update**

The Society of American Florists (SAF) reports that it, along with the American Nursery and Landscape Association (ANLA) is continuing to meet with key members of Congress in support of the language included in this year's U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) budget. The language calls for the secretary of agriculture to establish a program to help compensate greenhouse growers affected by last year's quarantine for *Ralstonia solanacearum* race 3 biovar 2. While the final passage of the 2004 spending bill was delayed until January 22, SAF says, now that the bill is in place, Congress can work with USDA to urge implementation. It is still unclear if the bill would help growers impacted by the quarantine.

The effort to obtain funding for greenhouse growers who were required by USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has been particularly hard-fought, SAF reports. The bill's language needed to indicate congressional intent, without counting toward the very tight congressional budget limits. Laws authorizing the secretary to compensate for plant quarantines and animal quarantines differ significantly, with compensation more easily obtained for animal producers. The Plant Protection Act, which governs plant compensation, allows less secretarial discretion. Long-term, avenues such as modifying the act or improving the federal crop insurance program to include quarantine destruction will be explored, SAF says. In the past, growers have been compensated for citrus canker and plum pox destruction, but only after congressional intervention.

## **Put Your Muscle In The Push For Reform**

ANLA says the next few months will be the most critical window for legislative process of the AgJOBS bill. The current mood in Congress for immigration reform is fairly negative and uncertain on when and how to pursue comprehensive reform. Yet support continues to build behind the AgJOBS legislation. At press time, the Senate bill had 52 cosponsors while House cosponsorship had grown to 90. With the anti-immigrant movement in the United States mobilizing to oppose every reform needed by the green industry, ANLA calls for its members, as well as all industry supporters, to make their voices heard. Visit [www.anla.org](http://www.anla.org), enter the Legislation Action site and customize your own letter to Congress.

## **Guidelines For PA Containers Set**

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture began inspecting nursery containers on April 1. Members of the Pennsylvania Landscape and Nursery Association (PLNA) and the American Nursery & Landscape Association (ANLA) are working with PDA to resolve issues regarding the sale of hanging baskets and other containers that do not equal their advertised measure. As a result, PDA has released the following guidelines:

- Initial efforts will focus on permanent plant containers, such as hanging baskets and planters. Advertising, signage and labeling of these containers must be accurate according to their inside diameter or Imperial measure (quart, gallon, etc.)
- Containers having dimensions that are molded into the container and are temporary (i.e. containers typically used to transfer plant material to the consumer and are later discarded) will *not* be subject to fines pending implementation of uniform labeling standards in cooperation with the National Institute for Standards and Testing. The goal for an action plan for these standards is September 1, with a compliance date of April 1, 2006.
- Temporary labels not molded into the container will not see fines until April 1, 2005.
- Advertising and signage must accurately describe permanent and temporary container sizes according to Imperial measure or linear inside dimensions. Containers do not have to contain a label regarding container volume or size until April 1, 2006.
- Use of ANSI Z60.1 standard for nursery containers (i.e. #1, #2) will be acceptable until April 1, 2006, for referring to container sizes that fall within those standards.

For more details, visit [www.plna.com](http://www.plna.com).