Tour of a Virtual Greenhouse

Part 3 – Growing Flowers in Greenhouses

Teacher/Presenter Notes

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| Slide/Image  Number | Image(s) | Teacher/Presenter Notes |
| 1 | Title Page | How does the growing of plants in greenhouses all begin? Where do flowers begin their lives? |
| 2 | Hands with seeds | Let’s start with the simplest – seeds!  These little seeds will eventually become fully-grown plants - as long as we care for them and nourish them. |
| 3 | Cutting being held in place by machine | Cuttings are often used as the starting point for plants – here you can see one of the workers putting a cutting into a clip, ready for planting. |
| 4 | Cutting being inspected | Cuttings are carefully examined before being used to ensure a healthy and strong beginning for the new plant. |
| 5 | 2 images showing Pots with potting soil in them | The pots are filled and lined up on conveyor belts ready for the cuttings. |
| 6 | Cutting and pot | In some of the larger greenhouse operations, the cutting(s) are then placed by the computerized machinery into the small pot. There is a growing trend towards more mechanization in the larger greenhouses. |
| 7 | Robotics in a greenhouse | This is another view of the robotics in action, with a cutting right in the middle of the photo and potted cuttings in the bottom left. |
| 8 | Split screen image with Pots on a conveyor belt | The pots are gathered together by machinery and placed in rows, ready to be placed on the benches or tables. |
| 9 | Two images - Small plant – initial stage of growth | Periodically, plants are checked for root growth and the health of the roots. |
| 10 | Potted roses in greenhouse | Eventually, there will be entire greenhouses filled with potted plants. |
| 11 | Tulips (yellow) | Tulips grow from bulbs; however, they need special care before they start to grow. |
| 12 | Split screen image of groups of tulip bulbs in the dormant stage | Tulip bulbs must be “stored” or “chilled” to about 6oC for 10 – 15 weeks before they are encouraged to begin growth. This is timed for the development of the tulips for early spring. |
| 13 | Split screen image of tulip bulbs | Tulip bulbs must be “stored” or “chilled” to about 6oC for 10 – 15 weeks before they are encouraged to begin growth. |
| 14 | Red and yellow tulips | But the wait is worth it. These tulips will be sold in early spring. |
| 15 | Split screen image of tulips and tulips on racks ready to be shipped out. | But the wait is worth it. Some tulips are harvested before opening so that as consumers we can experience the opening up of the flowers. |
| 16 | Split screen image of boxes of Spring Bulbs and workers getting plants ready for shipping. | Finally, the “finished product” - cut flowers or potted plants - are shipped to retail outlets. |
| 17 | Racks of flowers ready to be shipped out. | Finally, the “finished product” - cut flowers or potted plants - are shipped to retail outlets. Note the racks on wheels for easy movement; in some cases, the racks are used in the retail outlets and when the flowers are all sold, the racks are returned to the greenhouse. |
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