

SUSTAINABILITY

Doing better by doing good.

One of the reasons Matsui Nursery has been a successful business for nearly 50 years is that we've always believed in doing business within our means. We've saved significant money and resources because we seek out innovative techniques that make the most of our natural resources and minimize chemical inputs. Conservation is key to our being a successful and socially responsible business.

Years ago, we took part in a PG&E sponsored initiative to replace our greenhouse single-ply fiberglass with Lexan polycarbonate acrylic. In the first year, we reduced our energy costs by nearly 40% due to reduced heating and cooling needs. In addition, the Lexan proved to create an ideal atmosphere for our orchids.

As California faces one of the worst and longest droughts in years, farmers throughout the state are working hard to reduce their water usage. At Matsui Nursery, we're fortunate that, as compared to most agricultural crops, our orchids don't demand a lot of water to thrive. Nevertheless, we respect our limited natural resources and continually strive to minimize our impact on our fragile earth.

Two years ago, we began utilizing a mixture of moss and bark for planting our orchids which allow us to use about 30% less water than those planted in traditional bark-only medium. At our 84-acre main facility in Salinas, each of our greenhouses collect rainwater runoff and diverts it to one of four reservoirs on our property, which re-perk the groundwater aquifer below. We've also developed a technique to reclaim wastewater from our reverse osmosis system. In addition, we have an underground post-irrigation network that collects excess irrigation water then channels it back into the groundwater supply.

