

## NURSERY CROPS — AN EDITED EMAIL FROM RED OAK NURSERY (2012)

"Our Gerber daisies we grew last year (our 1st season using SumaGrow®)...was a nice crop and we were late planting and over produced...This year we reduced the quantities a little, planted on time, and have sold 95% of them and they are the best looking Gerbers ever with a higher percentage of the plants producing 5–8 flowers per flush of flowers and the few that stayed here beyond the 1st flowering seem to produce following flush of flowers quicker.

The greenhouse production areas are still using far less water than usual, I can only guess at 40% less, it might be more. As plants reach mature size, they use closer to what is expected, but still a guess of 10% less. Mature flowering HB in some varieties use 75% less. This also has saved us 60% of our normal fertilizer on those plants...

Our petunias that always show Fe & N deficiencies even with using foliar Fe & N have always required multiple drenches to lower the pH if they stayed longer than 6 weeks due to our bicarbonates in the water. Last year they did not need any pH adjustment to help them pick up nutrients after we started SG...We have not had to adjust the pH at all this year.

We still apply foliar Fe as always on petunias & N as we do on all our crops & we have had to reapply slow release fertilizers to keep them longer as usual except that we are using 20% lower rates getting equal results in most varieties. When it got warm in mid March we drenched again with SG + KNO3 4 oz/100g, + a soil surfactant Soaker, the next day our hand watering was reduced and we are still using less hand watering than usual even though days are longer, temps are up a little..."

