



Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station

Welcome to the CUAES greenhouses!

Researcher and Educator Checklist

The checklist below is intended to be a helpful resource for you as you conduct your work in greenhouses managed by the Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station (CUAES). Please feel free to ask your greenhouse grower if you have any questions!

Starting

Before you begin, please:

- Communicate anticipated needs** (e.g., large quantities of soil or pots, shade cloth, etc.) in advance to appropriate greenhouse staff. We can meet your needs more efficiently and effectively if we have adequate notice (~1 week is usually sufficient). Important emails to your grower should be copied to the greenhouse supervisor in case the grower is away. Always call if it's urgent!
- Before bringing in plant material, communicate with your grower or greenhouse supervisor**; all plants must be inspected before coming into the greenhouse. This applies to plants coming from other campus greenhouses, growth chambers, outdoor areas or off campus. Once in a greenhouse, plants must not be moved between greenhouses without permission; this is important for pest and pathogen control.
- Get the required EPA Working Protection Standard (WPS) training**. Learn more and sign up at: <https://oehwps.cals.cornell.edu/>

When establishing your plants in the greenhouse, please:

- Use proper pot size and pot filling techniques** to provide plant stability and to reduce watering demands. Fill pots 80-85% full after watering-in and settlement to leave headspace for watering. If you are unsure, your greenhouse grower will be happy to advise you.
- Space plants properly** to accommodate anticipated growth, ensure air movement, and provide access for watering and pest control measures. Please work with your greenhouse grower to determine a practical plant spacing plan.
- Repot plants before they are too large** for the pot volume. Keep in mind that growers water only twice daily except by special arrangement with the greenhouse supervisor. Watering more often than twice daily is generally the responsibility of the plant owner except under exceptional circumstances. Your greenhouse grower can advise you on the proper pot size.
- Support, stake and prune plants as needed** to keep them manageable.

(over)

During your project

When using greenhouse facilities, please:

- Know how to use hose quick-connects** and know the difference between fertilizer lines and clear water lines. Never adjust Dosatron (fertilizer injector) settings!
- Turn hoses off at faucet end**, not just at hose end; pressurized hoses can burst! Return hose ends to main shutoff valve and do not leave hoses kinked or coiled up.
- Hang hose end up** to keep it clean and pathogen free. Never lay the hose end on the floor.
- Communicate plant care issues** (e.g., pest and disease problems, fertility concerns, etc.) promptly to your greenhouse grower. If you email your grower, be sure to copy the greenhouse supervisor and manager to ensure your message is received even if someone is away.
- Observe restricted entry intervals (REIs)** after pesticide sprays. If there is a pesticide sign on the door, do not enter without consulting greenhouse staff!
- You are responsible for cleaning up after yourself. In tidying up, please take care to **keep potting soil and plant debris out of sink and floor drains**.
- Keep growth and work areas sanitary and orderly. **Do not overfill the trash and compost bins** provided (greenhouse staff need to be able to lift these four feet off the ground to dispose of contents). When moving compost bins through greenhouses and greenhouse corridors, **keep the lids on the bins to avoid pest transfer**.
- Be mindful of shared space and **treat other researchers' plants and equipment with respect**. Do not enter other research houses or handle plants that do not belong to you.

Finishing up

At the end of each experiment, please:

- Terminate experiments and discard plants in a timely manner**. Material from large experiments should be discarded directly into outdoor compost bins.
- Dispose of all transgenic and quarantined plant material appropriately**; all such material must be bagged and autoclaved. You are responsible for providing proper autoclave bags for autoclaving plant material. Greenhouse staff will autoclave material for you; please ask them where to put filled bags for autoclaving.
- The greenhouse must be emptied of plant material, cleared of major debris, and you must email the greenhouse grower and supervisor when you are done. If your house is not empty, or you have not emailed the greenhouse supervisor, you will continue to be charged until this is done.**