

# MESSENGER McHort

McPHERSON HORTICULTURE



**Greetings all.**  
Hilary and I wish you and yours a happy, healthy and peaceful holiday season.

The long range weather forecast suggests high humidity and prolonged warm spells with thunder storms likely. The very conditions that can and will excite root rots in container grown plants. Are you up for the challenge?  
See opposite for some practical and proven advice on how to manage your crop.

Overleaf we review and explore the topical issue of just how 'Green' are our nursery practices.. It all starts with a little mindfulness, but that must be translated into positive choices and actions.

McHort will be on holiday from 3pm Tuesday, 22nd December until Tuesday, 5th January, 2021

**Cheers and good growing.**

Ph: 07 823 8330  
Fax: 07 823 8331  
Mobile: 021 782250  
Email: [mchort@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mchort@xtra.co.nz)  
[www.mchort.co.nz](http://www.mchort.co.nz)

## HEADS-UP! ROOT ROT SEASON IS HERE, NOW!



### YOU KNOW THE SIGNS:

PLANTS WILTING, OFTEN ON ONE SIDE INITIALLY  
LEAF COLOUR CHANGES TO A GREY GREEN  
NO RECOVERY, EVEN AFTER IRRIGATION  
WILTING OCCURS SOME DAYS AFTER HEAVY RAIN  
STOCK IS OFTEN THREE QUARTERS GROWN  
MULTIPLE PLANTS ADJACENT TO ONE ANOTHER WILT  
THERE IS NO RECOVERY

## ROOT ROT PREVENTION STRATEGY

AVOID DAMAGING THE ROOT SYSTEM AT ANY STAGE  
USE A POT, NOT A PLANTER BAG, WITH EXCELLENT DRAINAGE  
USE A POT WITH ISOLATING STAND-OFF FEET AND AN AIR CORE FEATURE  
INVEST IN QUALITY POTTING MIX OF A SUITABLE STRUCTURE  
DO NOT OVER FERTILISE  
IF TOP DRESSING, CHOOSE A MAINLY COATED FERTILISER FORMULATION  
NEVER, EVER, ALLOW PLANTS TO STAND IN WET, PONDING, AREAS  
NEVER ALLOW PLANTS TO GET TOO DRY  
MULCH WITH BARK TO DISSUADE LIVERWORT GROWTH  
MAKE SURE YOUNG STOCK IS SCIARID FLY FREE BEFORE POTTING UP  
INSTAL A TRICHOPROTECTION DRENCH IN YOUNG STOCK, CUTTINGS & GOL's  
REMOVE INFECTED STOCK PROMPTLY TO REDUCE DISEASE PRESSURE

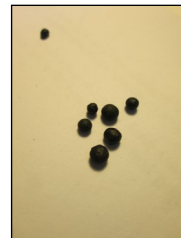
## HERE ARE YOUR TOOLS FOR SUCCESS



McHort ERACLE  
SUPER POT  
2.5Lt 17cm



TRICHOFLOW  
NURSERY  
DRENCH FORMULA



APEX  
NURSERY  
FERTILISER



HYPERMITES  
BIO-CONTROL  
OF SCIARID

**CALL DONALD FOR POTTING MIX ADVICE**



## CHOOSE LONG LIFE GROWING CONTAINERS



**McHort  
FENICE POT**  
20-32cm 4 sizes



Our European sourced pots & tubs are made from recycled materials. They have a proven long service life.

## EMBRACE NEW POT TECHNOLOGY



**McHort Pro Pot**  
Side slot air pruning for healthier more vigorous roots

## HOW GOOD ARE THE ROOTS ON YOUR PLANTS?

Go on, slip off the pot or bag you grow in and take a closer look. You can learn a lot! Check out how much of the pot or bag is colonised by roots. Are they white and firm? Blackened, soft or water soaked roots may indicate disease. Are there roots right to the bottom of the pot or bag? If not, it could point to drainage or potting mix structure issues.

McHort, McPherson Horticulture  
88 West Road, RD1,  
OHAUPO 3881, NZ

Ph: 07 823 8330  
Fax: 07 823 8331  
Mobile: 021 782250  
Email: [mchort@extra.co.nz](mailto:mchort@extra.co.nz)  
[www.mchort.co.nz](http://www.mchort.co.nz)



## REDUCE, REUSE, REPAIR, RECYCLE

IN THE SPIRIT OF MINDFULNESS, MAY WE OFFER THESE THOUGHTS ON HOW WE ALL CAN REINFORCE OUR PUBLIC IMAGE. BEING THAT 'WE ARE PART OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTION AND NOT PART OF THE PROBLEM'.

Is our current use of plastics sustainable?

Are we managing water use wisely?

Can we reduce our chemical dependency?

## GO CHEMICAL FREE!



PLANT SOAP



TRICHOPROTECTION



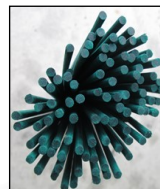
HYPERMITES

At McHort we champion the use of non-chemical pest & disease control and have developed the use of effective and economical alternatives to chemicals. We subscribe to the view that reducing chemical dependency is realistic and when combined with best practice cultural technique is the way forward. We can help you with a review of your cultural practice, including potting mix formulation, to reduce your chemical usage. Call us for a chat.

## FUTURE ISSUES

An issue that we have been wrestling with is the continued sale and use of bamboo stakes. The importation of these requires fumigation currently with Methyl bromide. This extremely toxic gas also depletes the ozone layer. We cannot condone its continued use. MPI insist on effective fumigation for valid biosecurity reasons. Fair enough. We wonder if you would support us if we offered you fibreglass rods as an alternative to bamboo stakes? They will cost more! They do however have a long service life and could be recovered and reused. You may even consider taking them off plants before despatch! Let us know your thoughts.

**ARE YOU READY TO  
REPLACE BAMBOO WITH  
FIBREGLASS STAKES?**



WE WELCOME YOUR THOUGHTS ON HOW WE TOO MIGHT IMPROVE

information | advice | supply