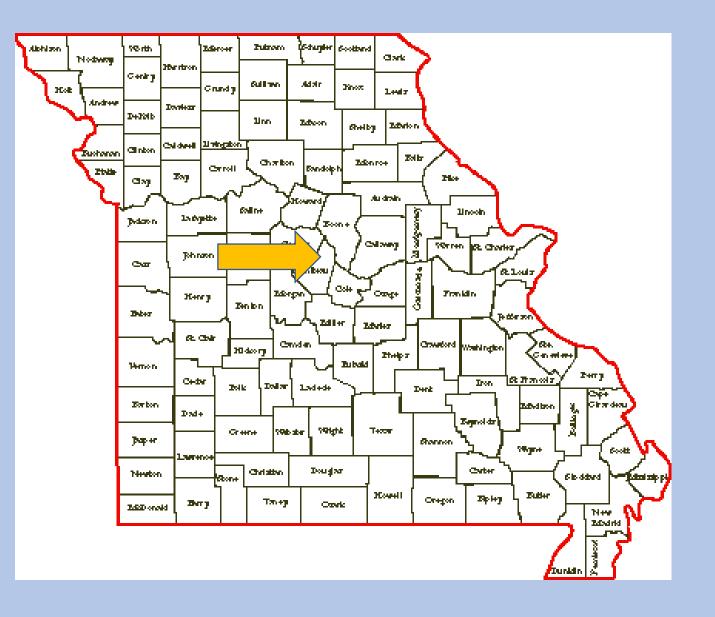
Developing Specialty Cut Flower Production in Missouri During The Winter Months

A Joint Research Project Comparing 3 Farms & 3 Different Growing Methods

3 Farms 3 Areas in MO 3 Growing Methods

• Happy Hollow Farm

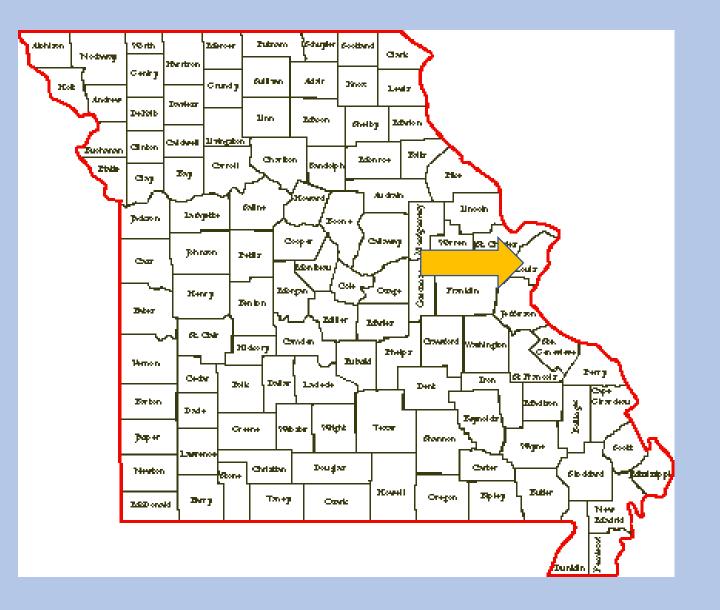
- Jamestown, MO (Central, creek bottom valley)
- 10' x 100' Caterpillar tunnel
- Electric heat matts & straw mulch



3 Farms 3 Areas in MO 3 Growing Methods

• Urban Buds

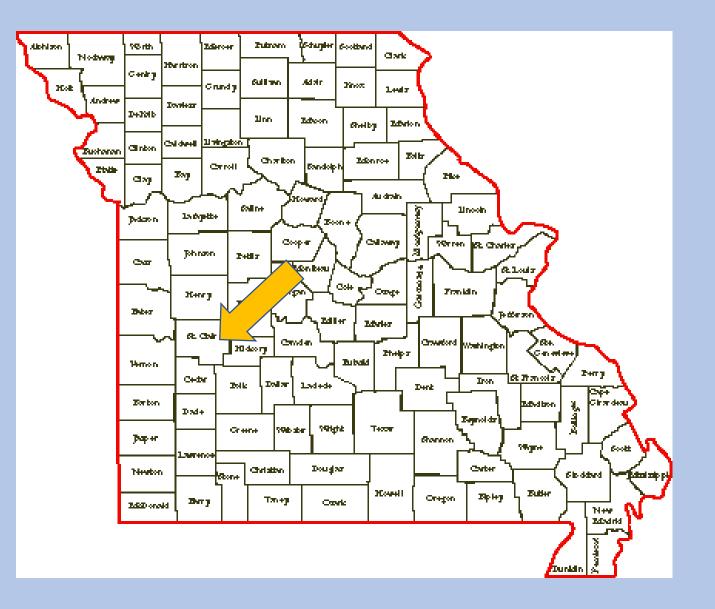
- St. Louis, MO (urban)
- > 20' x 60' Hoop house
- > Forced air heat, Natural Gas
- Lights to lengthen & day light period
- Lights also to interrupt night time period



3 Farms 3 Areas in MO 3 Growing Methods

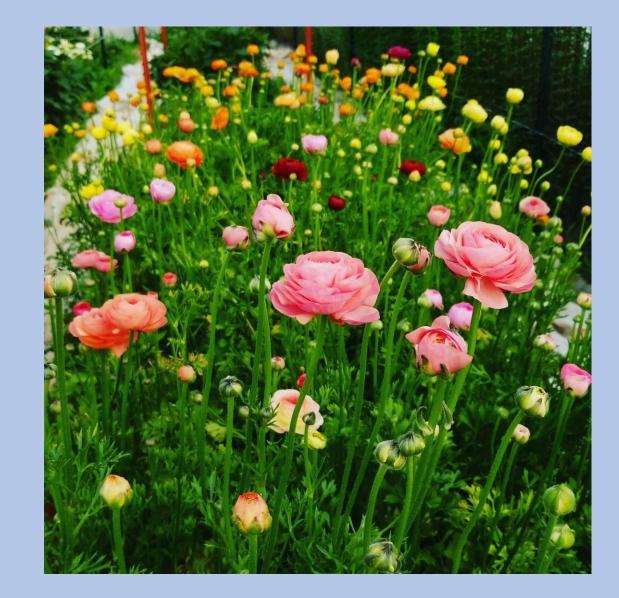
• Wild Goose Gardens

- Osceola, MO (Southwest, hilltop growing)
- ≥ 30' x 96' high tunnel
- Forced air outdoor wood stove
- Lights to lengthen day light period
- Lights also to interrupt night time period



Objectives

- Extend the growing season
- Trial different growing structures & heat sources
- Maintain wholesale customers year round
- Presentation of data at area conferences & workshops
- Host 3 on farm tours at each participating farm



Winter Flower Production Varieties

- Snapdragons
- Anemones
- Ranunculus
- Dahlias
- Aster/Lisianthus

Winter Flower Production Methods

- Interrupted night time duration, 1 hour of light, 60-75 watt LED's
- Temperatures held at 50 degrees
- Transplanting date for all varieties early/mid August

2017 Winter Harvest Records

	Urban Buds	Wild Goose Gardens	Happy Hollow Farm
Ranunculus	130 = \$3,250	45 bunches = \$675	12 bunches = \$180
Anemone	91 = \$810	48 bunches = \$624	22 bunches = \$330
Snapdragons	45 = \$607.50	120 bunches = \$1,440	35 bunches = \$420
Dahlias	750 stems = \$3,750	74 bunches = \$1,110	-
Lisianthus	-	-	-
Stock	-	24 Bunches = \$288	-

Challenges

• Winter production is HARD!

- ✓ Time consuming
- ✓ Stressful
- ✓ Expensive
- ✓ Lots of variables
- ✓ No break

Benefits

- Maintain customer base year round
- Steady stream of income
- Corner on the market!
- Opportunity to teach new interns & employees

Research Overview

- SCBG afforded us the opportunity to trial winter flower production
- Definite successes & failures
- Winter production is not recommended for beginning growers
- SCBG needs more farmer trials!!!

Urban Buds

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