Researchers at land-grant universities are optimizing irrigation for greenhouse, nursery, and urban production. This work enhances producer profits, reduces environmental impacts, and supplies consumers with high-quality ornamental, medicinal, and edible plants.

- Nurseries throughout the **eastern U.S.** adopted white containers. One adopter found that switching to white containers cut costs by **40%** and shortened production time by **30%**, saving up to **$7,300** per acre per year.
- After a workshop, **Tennessee** growers made changes that will save an estimated **$42,923** per nursery, nearly **one million dollars** across all participating nurseries.
- Using recommended automated systems, a **Tennessee** nursery reduced manual irrigation time and labor by **25%** and significantly decreased nitrogen applications.
- Growers in **South Carolina** and **North Carolina** adopted technology that irrigates more nursery trees simultaneously and reduces pump run-time costs and labor costs.
- Trials across the **western U.S.** identified plants and strategies that have helped the nursery, greenhouse, and landscape industries comply with water use regulations and reduce strain on state water budgets.
- Project data were key to developing the credits, rebates, and fee reductions for **Maryland's** stormwater retention credit program.
- Operations in **Virginia** and **Georgia** integrated irrigation tactics that reduced resource use and production costs.
- In **Florida**, new substrate materials and stratification techniques helped growers reduce water, fertilizer, and peat use.
- Precise data helped **Arkansas** growers refine production and quality of container-grown peppers for key markets.
- Over **74%** of conifer growers in the **Great Lakes region** are more confident implementing practices to improve seedling and tree survival.

Multistate Research Fund IMPACTS

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