



PLANT  
MANAGER  
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# PGRs Help Save On Labor, Reduce Crop Time

Jim Santos-Mocon, Rainbow Greenhouses, Chilliwack,  
British Columbia, Canada, shares his story.

**F**ine Americas has provided my operation with outstanding growth regulators. I have experienced great control and performance with Configure, Dazide and Piccolo. I recently trialed Configure on osteospermum, zygos and a few ornamentals. With osteos, I trialed rates of 100 to 300 ppm one week after transplanting, which provided my crop with 50 percent more bloom. Doing this also saved me on labor as some varieties didn't require a pinch. With zygos, I was able to get more branching, which has been a struggle for our 4-inch pots. With two applications a week's worth apart at 100ppm, I was able to reduce crop time. With ornamentals, I was able to increase

branching and reduce stem stretching.

Dazide is an essential part of all crops I grow besides Easter lilies. One crop I use it most on are chrysanthemums, where I require short-term growth control. I am able to do multiple applications with rates of 1500 to 3500 ppm depending on weather and crop physiological stage. With varieties such as 'Five Alarm Red,' it helped not only to control growth but to provide uniform growth. This wouldn't be achieved if weekly applications weren't done. Start of applications is at one week after transplant date.

I use Piccolo active ingredient paclobutrazol mostly on petunias that I wish to hold for a longer sales window. I use drench applications of 2 to 5 ppm at finishing stage to help

hold plant quality till sale date. Drenches of this chemical also work well on dahlias, poinsettias, and lilies. The rates vary depending on stage of growth but not higher than 3 ppm and on lilies as high as 8 ppm.

As with all chemicals, providing an early treatment realizes better results than a late treatment. Through all applications, you can get better crop performance, higher yield count and better shelf life.

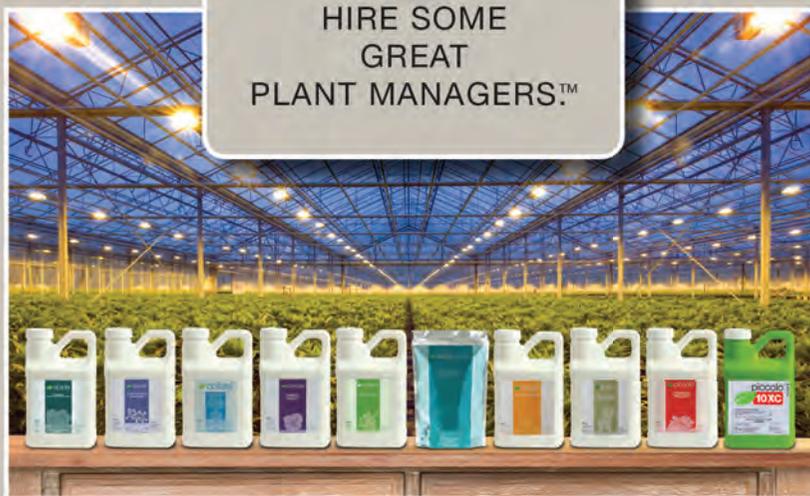
Plant growth regulators are key components to any operation. Through trials and research of these chemicals, we can get optimal performance.

To be considered for the Fine Americas Plant Manager Award, visit [www.greenhousegrower.com/plant-manager-award](http://www.greenhousegrower.com/plant-manager-award)

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So discover how the plant managers from Fine Americas can put more profit in your operation. If you're like most growers, you'll wonder how you ever managed without them.

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