Press Release



Darwin Perennials® To Ship AutoStixâ,,¢ From Darwin Colombia

Over 600 varieties from the Darwin Perennials assortment will be offered in this laborsaving transplant option.



WEST CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, December 2018: Darwin Perennials[®] announces it will ship AutoStix options for its vegetative perennial offerings through Darwin Colombia effective immediately. AutoStix is the transplant technology developed by <u>Visser Horti Systems</u> (The Netherlands) that automates the process of sticking cuttings. Recent trials performed by Darwin Perennials with this labor-saving system has shown positive results, and the company is confident that more than 600 of its perennial varieties will work within the system.

"The rising cost of labor and the diminishing pool of workers is a major stress on greenhouse and nursery customers," says **Jacco Kuipers**, General Manager of Darwin Perennials. "Darwin Perennials is committed to offering solutions to the industry wherever it can, and providing our products in the AutoStix format is one way to help our customers achieve savings, while still producing high-quality and in-demand perennials."

"In this tight labor market, installing AutoStix has allowed us to continue aggressively pursuing our URC program instead of being forced to revert to higher-cost options," says **Chris Hansen** of Hampshire Farms (Hampshire, IL).

Darwin Perennials will offer perennial AutoStix clips in 34- and 51-strip options. AutoStix clips are built as biodegradable products, designed to enhance and guide the development of the root system. According to Visser, the machine can transplant up to 10,000 cuttings per hour with a uniform and high-quality result.

For more information on ordering your AutoStix perennials supplied through Darwin Colombia, visit www.darwinperennials.com.

About Darwin Perennials

Darwin Perennials, a division of Ball Horticultural Company, is a leading breeder and producer of cutting and tissue culture propagated perennials for the greenhouse and nursery industry. This quality-focused brand is supported by unrooted cutting supply out of its South American farm, Darwin Colombia. With its focus on Perennials with Staying Power[™], the Darwin Perennials' product lineup means success for your perennial program. For more information, visit www.darwinperennials.com.