

## Ohio Floriculture & Nursery Conference 2026

October 15, 2026

*All times are in Eastern US Standard Time (EST)*

Thursday, October 15, 2026

Controlled Environment Agriculture Research Complex | 2515 Carmack Rd., Columbus, OH 43210

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**8:30 – 9:00 AM Welcome and Introductions**  
Dr. W. Garrett Owen, The Ohio State University

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**9:00 – 9:50 AM Building Better Liners: Improving Perennial and Woody Ornamental Propagation**  
Dr. W. Garrett Owen, The Ohio State University

*Producing high-quality ornamental liners starts with successful propagation, but rooting is only part of the equation. Light, root-zone temperature, propagation environment, and cultural practices can all influence rooting, uniformity, and subsequent plant growth. This session will highlight recent research and translate those findings into practical strategies to improve rooting success for greenhouse and nursery propagators.*

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**10:00 – 10:50 AM Invited Keynote Speaker**

**Don't Let Your Roots Rot**  
Dr. Mary Hausbeck, Michigan State University

*Root rot pathogens can slowly nibble plant roots while others can rapidly devour them. Get to know which ones you might face and how to avoid them. We will discuss management tools and how to implement a program that works.*

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**10:50 – 11:10 AM Break**  
Visit Sponsor Booths (In-Person Participants)

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**11:10 – 12:00 PM Irrigation System Sanitation**  
Dr. Peter Konjoian, Konjoian's Horticulture Education Services, Inc.

*Effective sanitation depends on understanding how disinfectant chemistries work and where they fit within a production system. Learn how quaternary ammonium compounds and oxidizers differ in their chemistry, activity, and application, and how each can be used effectively in greenhouse and nursery sanitation programs.*

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**12:00 – 1:15 PM Lunch | Sponsor Presentations | Latest and Greatest Ohio State University Ornamental Research**  
Visit Sponsor Booths (In-Person Participants)

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**1:15 – 2:05 PM D.C. Kiplinger Floriculture Endowed Chair Keynote Presentation**

**Using Microbial Biostimulants and Novel Plant Growth Promoting Bacteria to Improve Fertilizer use Efficiency for Greenhouse Ornamental Production**  
Dr. Michelle Jones, The Ohio State University

*Biostimulants*

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**2:05 – 2:55 PM Invited Keynote Speaker**

**Mildews, Botrytis and Beyond: How to Win the Battle**  
Dr. Mary Hausbeck, Michigan State University

*Foliage and flowers must be protected from the mildews and Botrytis before an outbreak occurs. Learn how to recognize the conditions that favor these foliar blights so that action can be taken.*

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| <b>2:55 – 3:10 PM</b> | <b>Break</b><br>Visit Sponsor Booths (In-Person Participants)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>3:10 – 4:00 PM</b> | <b>Current Integrated Pest Management Practices for Control of Mites in Ornamentals</b><br>Dr. Luis Cañas, The Ohio State University<br><br><i>Mites can quickly damage the appearance and quality of ornamental plants. Learn how automated scouting, biological control, insecticide rotations, and the latest research, including findings from the USDA-IR-4 program, can be used to improve mite management.</i> |
| <b>4:00 – 4:20 PM</b> | <b>Latest and Greatest Ohio State University Ornamental Research</b><br><br><i>Hear the latest The Ohio State University ornamental research in a series of fast-paced, 3-minute flash talks from undergraduate, graduate, and post-docs highlighting new findings for greenhouse and nursery production.</i>                                                                                                         |
| <b>4:30 PM</b>        | <b>Closing Remarks</b><br>Dr. W. Garrett Owen, The Ohio State University                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |