

## ATTENTION TO DETAIL

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Many articles have been written about the production of greenhouse crops discussing this and that, but few discuss the fine tuning to produce that exceptional plant. What makes one grower of a similar plant different from another grower? It is attention to detail.

It starts with the grower's production plan and schedule. Will the crop have a market that will produce a profit? Is the quality comparable at the market place to other crops or does it have that something special to demand a higher price?

In the greenhouse, is close attention paid to the root medium (its porosity and nutrient content) throughout the crop. How often is the proportioner checked to see that it delivers the right amount of fertilizer?

Are the benches clean? Is the ground under them free of weeds and debris?

When applying fungicides or insecticides are you getting thorough coverage? Is the pesticide the correct one for the pest? Is the dilution correct? What is the interval between applications?

When growing the crop, do you monitor temperature daily? Does your thermometer sit too high above the crop? Is it accurate? Is it calibrated? Is it aspirated?

How about light. Is the glazing clean to give maximum light to your crop?

Do you have a maintenance plan to periodically check all motors, heaters, and moving equipment? Does this plan include replacement and repair for greenhouse structures, chimneys, walks, benches, etc?