

## PENINSULAR BENCHES

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### WHAT ARE THEY?

These are benches designed to use the space within the greenhouse more efficiently and increase production. With this system, there is one wide center walk which runs the length of the greenhouse. Off this run benches with narrow walks between them.

### WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES?

Growers using this system say that they have gained 10 to 18 percent more growing space.

The peninsular bench system is a labor saver. From one wide center aisle, plants, flats and other items can be moved more efficiently and economically in and out of the greenhouse on rollers, carts or pushwagons. There is less walking time down long aisles to pick out individual orders and, of course, fewer bruised and broken plants. It is easier to water and fertilize pot plants because one hose will serve more bench area. These benches are adaptable to automatic watering.

If your operation lends itself to garden center or self-service, this type of bench setup is a must. It allows for more efficient customer traffic flow within the greenhouse sales area. The stocking of benches from one single paved aisle is more convenient. They can be portable or movable to offer flexibility to your sales area.

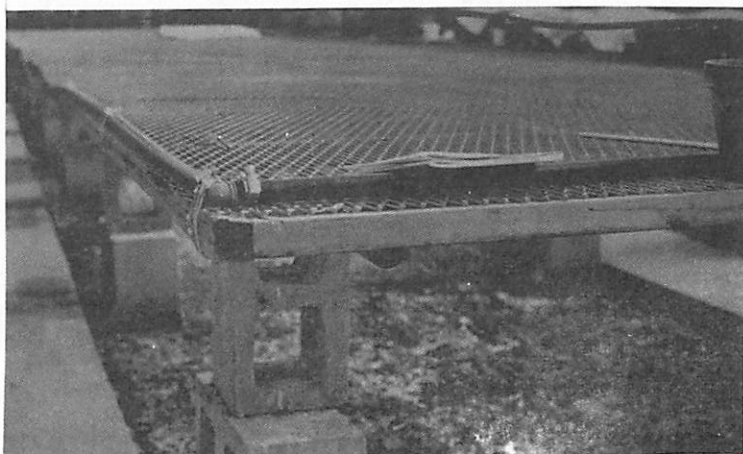
## WHAT ARE THE DISADVANTAGES?

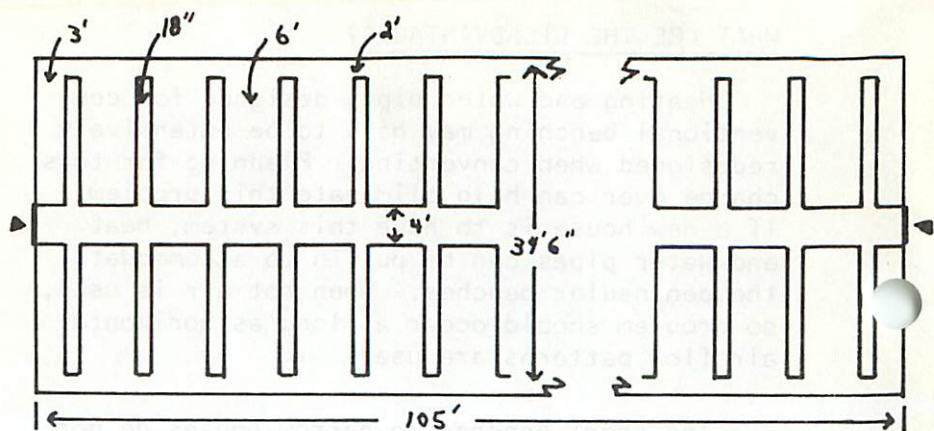
Heating and water pipes designed for conventional benching may have to be extensively redesigned when converting. Planning for this change over can help eliminate this problem. If a new house is to have this system, heat and water pipes can be put in to accommodate the peninsular benches. When hot air is used, no problem should occur as long as horizontal air flow patterns are used.

The short benches in narrow houses do not lend themselves to growing cut flower crops but are excellent for pot crops and multiple display benches.

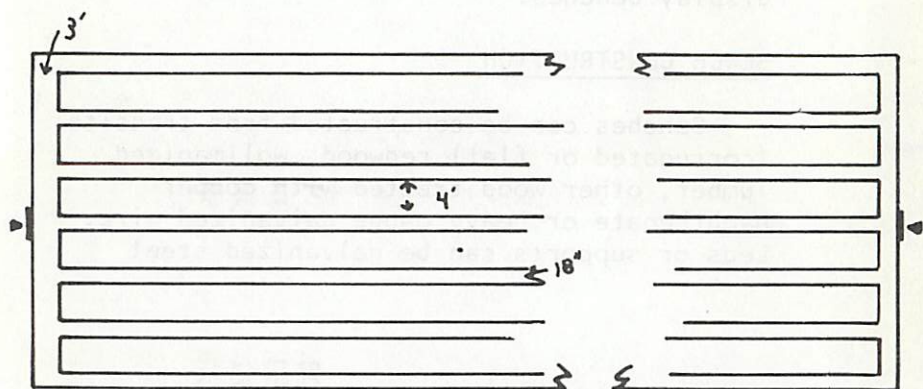
## BENCH CONSTRUCTION

Benches can be constructed from transite (corrugated or flat) redwood, wollmanized lumber, other wood treated with copper naphthenate or heavy gauge galvanized wire. Legs or supports can be galvanized steel





Peninsular Benches = 76% Efficiency



Conventional Benches = 67% Efficiency

Figure 1. Bench arrangements for a 34' 6" x 105' greenhouse.

Total floor area is 3570 sq. ft. Conventional benches cover 2400 sq. ft. or 67%. Peninsular benches cover 2678 sq. ft. or 76%, a gain of 278 sq. ft. (12%) along with other advantages.

posts, concrete blocks set on end, or other suitable materials. There are many ways this type of benching can be incorporated into your greenhouse program.

If you have to build new benches in your greenhouse, consider peninsular benches. They will increase your growing area, make better use of time and labor, give your operation flexibility and save you money.

Your regional agent can assist you with this design.

