Use Mobile Websites & Apps in the Greenhouse to Improve Efficiency and Expand Capabilities
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Summary:
• Technology should no longer be a limit to accessing information in the greenhouse, with smartphones, tablets, and internet access.
• Our objective is to explore how mobile information technology can improve efficiency, and to work with industry partners to take advantage of the exciting opportunities.

Our approach:
Our goal is to develop and test mobile solutions, and work out the kinks so that we can provide recommendations to our industry partners. We are testing several ways to use mobile technology in the greenhouse. These include:

• Back Pocket Grower – training videos, apps, trouble-shooting fact sheets.
• Spray and fertilizer stock tank calculations with Back Pocket Grower app
• Graphical tracking of height and soil test data using a tablet version of Excel in Microsoft Office 365 and storing them on a cloud folder (OneDrive)
• Reading bar codes for recording crop data
• Taking and filing weekly crop photos
• Access lab nutrient testing data from QAL in the greenhouse
• Recording and accessing crop notes on a cloud folder
• Translating spoken crop instructions from English to other languages
• Communicating with data loggers in the greenhouse, such as temperature and humidity, using Bluetooth

How can you use the information:
• How could mobile information technology help your business or your customers?
• Are you using apps and cloud folders on smartphones and tablets already? If so, share with us so we can learn from you.
• Provide us feedback on what information you would like to access in the greenhouse, so we can help with solutions. What do you have hidden in desktop folders or piles of paper that could be delivered on the cloud?
• We can help you develop a customized version of Back Pocket Grower