



TRANSPLANT SYSTEMS

Phase 2 - The seedling supply nursery



Over the years we have encouraged vegetable and salad crop seedling supply nurseries that when considering replacement of existing cellular trays and/or filling and seed sowing equipment that they purchase machines that are capable of processing the square TS 144 and TS 256 cellular trays.

This continues to be a challenge. Occasionally we have a disappointment when we see a grower or nursery commit to fixed tray conveyor systems that may later restrict adoption of a preferred square tray best suited to an automatic planting system. Where there are growing trays not suitable for automation there exists ways and means to take back old used trays and negotiate reasonable concessionary prices to supply replacement new TS 144 and TS 256 cell seedling trays. Some growers and nurseries are considering this opportunity especially growers having existing on-farm seedling nurseries.

Transplant Systems has the skills and dedication to assist growers with achieving their seedling supply requirements. From small projects to major multi million seedling nurseries, our team can design, develop and assist with the construction of your own on-farm seedling nursery. Please see the article on nursery design for more information on this.

Where we are today has been 20+ years of resolved effort by a small dedicated team at Transplant

Systems. Achieving these phased objectives has been paramount before investing heavily in research and development in automatic planting systems.





Case Study - Boomaroo Nursery

We are told by many who visit us, that our nursery is the most modern and automated of its type in Australia. When we started, we were growing transplants in Speedling style 198 cell trays. When sales approached 40 Million seedlings a year “log jams” started to appear in the nursery processes. In addition growers started asking for a wider range of seedling varieties requiring trays of different cell sizes and dimensions. We found the internal logistics of the nursery were ineffective and made it difficult to meet orders on time.

This was when Transplant Systems introduced us to the 40 cm x 40 cm square tray system offering several trays of different cell size and cell volume but of the one common outer dimension. This enabled us to reconfigure our nursery to handle a single container which met the needs of the growers for different types of transplants. It enabled us to create a unified internal logistical system which gave economies and removed bottlenecks in our production flow.

Transplant Systems then introduced automatic planting machines which could use the same square trays offering further efficiencies in transportation and plant rack movement at farm locations. In effect we were driving out costs in production and introducing savings further down the supplier chain to the grower. We now employ state of the art management systems controlling the order, production and

delivery. All seedling production and tray movement is automated.

Put simply, we can see new business opportunities coming from our relationship with Transplant Systems. We refer specifically to their development of the TS high density automatic planting machines. Many of our lettuce growers have been waiting for this machine to plant lettuce at close distances for harvesting the leaf. Other business will come where some seed varieties now sown direct in the beds can be successfully and economically raised as seedling transplants. This makes crop management easier, the ecology aspect is improved and the grower gains through reducing costs in their farming operations. We see this trend gaining momentum and we are well positioned to respond to this trend.

Transplant Systems have told us they are now offering their expertise in nursery design and planting technology to growers in USA, Europe and SE Asia. In this regard, and in cooperation with Transplant Systems we could be willing to share our nursery knowledge and experience anywhere in the world.

Theo Jacometti.

Boomaroo Nurseries

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