

Change Is the Only Constant

Did you know there's such a thing as "change exhaustion?" (And apparently it's not being sick of all the loose change rattling around at the bottom of your purse.)



According to a 2020 scientific study, we have about 6,000 thoughts on an average day. Imagine if you had to

act on each of them — that would be 6,000 tasks in a single day! Even 10% would be 600 tasks — yikes!

So how do we calm our already overworked minds? Plants, of course! We know that at the start of the pandemic when the only certainty was uncertainty, people flocked to the garden center to buy not only edibles and herbs to grow their own food due to worries about food uncertainty and shortages, but also houseplants to beautify (and calm-ify) their indoor spaces.

If you're wondering what breeders are making available for you to put on your benches for these returning customers in 2023, check out Steve Kloosterman's California Spring Trials article on page 32. There, he shares a few trends and themes he saw among the plants on display at CAST.

Looking for some fresh display ideas for your green goods? Four garden centers representing different parts of the country sent us some photos of what their stores looked like when they were all stocked up for spring sales. Turn to "Snapshots of Spring" on page 14 to see them.

Also in This Issue

Change isn't always a bad thing. In this issue we're introducing a new department called Editors' Picks, where the editorial staff highlights items we think your customers will be looking for. Find them on page 12.

Columnist Stan Pohmer admits, "We're in pretty scary times, and there's little indication that things will get measurably better in the next 12 to 18 months. While we can't control all of these externalities that affect our consumer and our business, we can anticipate them, plan for them and proactively react to them." Turn to page 26 for his advice on how to adapt to cope with the uncertainty.

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