



San Marcos Growers to close on January 1, 2026

In June 2023 it was announced to San Marcos Growers employees that the nursery would be winding down operations over the next few years. After more than four decades of great success producing our many unique and interesting plants suitable to the California climate, this certainly was not the outcome that anyone would have wanted. Santa Barbara County however is under extreme pressure from the State of California to meet affordable housing quotas. The county discussed this need with the property owners, who have leased the property to San Marcos Growers since its founding in 1979 and who also served on the nursery's board of directors. The property owners agreed to develop the property with affordable housing when the county rezones the property from its current agricultural zoning to residential zoning.

Given the development timeline, our board of directors decided the best course of action would be a gradual reduction in production activities leading up to discontinuing operations completely by the beginning of 2026. In the meantime, we will be actively exploring all opportunities that might keep our many unique plants available in the trade and have the name "San Marcos Growers" and its informational website live on. In this transition period we will be working to help employees find other work, while rewarding those who can ride out the next couple of years with us. We cherish our relationship with our many long-term customers and hope that all will take the opportunity to visit us while we are still in operation. It has been our privilege to serve the California horticulture community and we hope to continue this full throttle until we close the gates for the last time.

