



## Vineland's e-Newsletter – Winter 2018

### **The Government of Canada invests in innovation to support the Canadian greenhouse sector**

Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food was at Vineland Research and Innovation Centre November 26, 2018 to announce a federal investment of up to \$5 million to the new Automation Cluster under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership. The Cluster will be led by Vineland. [Read more](#)



*(L to R) Chris Bittle, Member of Parliament for St. Catharines; Shelley Martin, interim CEO, Vineland Research and Innovation Centre; Dr. Tania Humphrey, Chief Scientific Officer, Vineland Research and Innovation Centre; Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food; and Vance Badawey, Member of Parliament for Niagara Centre*

## Organizational changes at Vineland



*Shelley Martin,  
interim CEO*

The Board of Vineland announced the appointment of Shelley Martin in the role of interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO) following the resignation of Dr. Jim Brandle November 9, 2018.

Ms. Martin retired earlier this year from her role as President and CEO of Nestlé Canada Inc. She held this position for the final five years of her 28-year career at Nestlé, which included leading numerous business units and functions.

Ms. Martin has been named a Top 100 award winner for Canada's Most Powerful Women by the Women's Executive Network for a number of years. She joined Vineland's Board in 2017.

"Vineland is well positioned with a talented group of researchers and collaborators to continue to generate impact and commercial success for the horticulture industry", said Ms. Martin, "and I look forward to guiding the organization during this transition period."

Dr. Tania Humphrey, Chief Scientific Officer (CSO) and Gary Moffatt, Chief Operating Officer (COO), will report to Ms. Martin.

As the new, CSO Dr. Humphrey oversees a team of research directors including Dr. Daryl Somers, Dr. Michael Brownbridge and Dr. Amy Bowen. Cheryl Lennox, Director of Marketing & Communications is also reporting to Dr. Humphrey.

Dr. Humphrey joined Vineland in 2008 and most recently served as Director of Strategic Planning & Research Management for the organization. She received her PhD in Plant Biology from the University of Queensland, Australia.

Gary Moffatt continues in his role as COO for Vineland, a position he was appointed to in 2012.

The Vineland Board has initiated the search for a new CEO and is pleased Ms. Martin agreed to assume the role of interim CEO until a permanent CEO has been selected, ensuring a smooth transition to new leadership.



*Dr. Tania Humphrey, CSO*



*Gary Moffatt, COO*

## Vineland's 49th Parallel Collection continues to grow

### Here comes the sun

Chinook Sunrise™ is set for release  
March 31, 2019.

*Outstanding beauty. Exceptional quality.*

Introducing Chinook Sunrise™, the second addition to Vineland's 49th Parallel Collection. This incredible rose blooms in a flush with a riot of exotic coral colours. Gardeners will love this low-maintenance beauty measuring 1.5 metre in height with an almost 1.5 metre spread, black spot tolerance and winter hardiness across Canada.

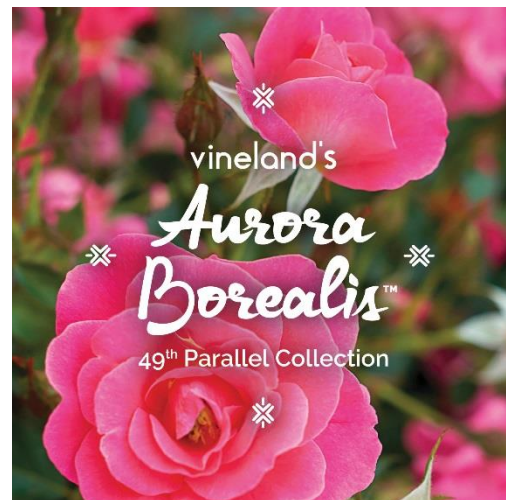


View [Chinook Sunrise™](#) courtesy of J.C. Bakker & Sons Ltd. [www.jcbakker.com](http://www.jcbakker.com)

### Coming in 2021 - Aurora Borealis™

We are pleased to introduce the third selection of the collection: Aurora Borealis™.

The bright dancing lights of the aurora are captured in the blooming clusters of this dramatic sunset pink rose set against dark green and glossy foliage. This low-maintenance rose measures one-metre in height with a one-metre spread and features black spot resistance and winter hardiness across Canada.



For more information, please visit

[49throses.com](http://49throses.com) or contact:

Amy Bowen, PhD

Research Director, Consumer Insights

905-562-0320 x805

[amy.bowen@vinelandresearch.com](mailto:amy.bowen@vinelandresearch.com)

## Best practices for healthy trees

Vineland has been identifying methods and creating new technologies to help tree propagators grow seedlings with better root quality.

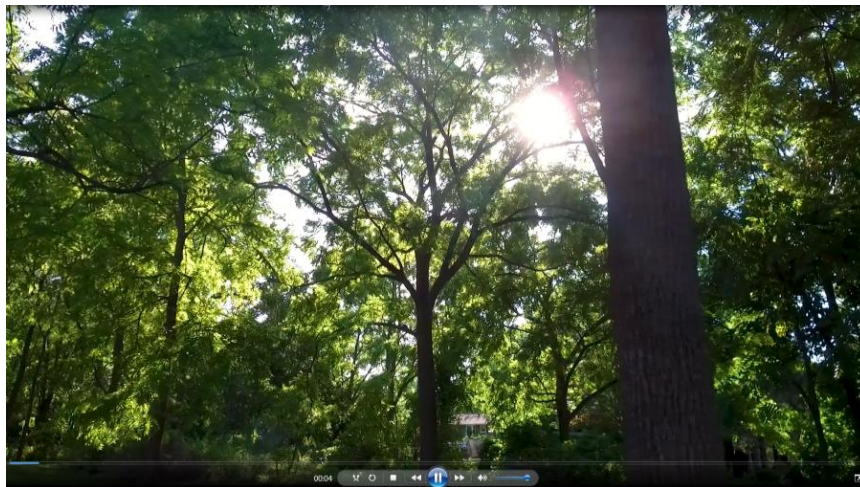
Our research found the design of propagation trays critical to the development of healthy, laterally orientated structural roots at this early stage of a tree's life. Trays designed to expose growing root tips to air have also produced the best quality root systems with the fewest amount of misdirected roots.

Tree seedlings were grown at Vineland in different trays and then planted into the field to monitor their establishment for five seasons. Findings indicated seedlings transplanted from air-pruning propagation trays had fewer total and critical root deflections and more vigorous vegetative growth after transplanting.

Successful tree planting means a tree will not just survive but thrive in the landscape for decades. Healthy roots mean healthy trees and resilient landscapes.

Check out this video illustrating optimal techniques for growing tree roots in healthy trees <https://tinyurl.com/yao3kzc4>

For more information, please contact:  
Darby McGrath, PhD  
Research Scientist, Nursery & Landscape  
905-562-0320 x766  
[darby.mcgrath@vinelandresearch.com](mailto:darby.mcgrath@vinelandresearch.com)



*Best practices for growing healthy trees video*

## The skinny on dipping

It's one thing to use biocontrol to manage pests in a greenhouse but it's even better not to welcome them into the facility in the first place. Growers are catching onto that idea thanks to Vineland.

In a 2018 survey conducted by Vineland, two-thirds of growers who participated said they are using cutting dips to eradicate pests before new ornamental crops take root in their greenhouses. More than 80 per cent also said it is a practice they will continue using to keep bugs at bay.



*Dipping ornamental cuttings in a greenhouse to eradicate pests*

Vineland has been instrumental in selling the idea of dipping imported plant cuttings (which greenhouse flower growers typically use to start new flower crops) in insecticidal oils or soaps, or biopesticides to kill pests. It is also working with product manufacturers and Flowers Canada (Ontario) Inc. to change labelling on existing pest control products to include cuttings dips as an approved use.

"A lot of cuttings are not as clean as you would like them to be," said Rose Buitenhuis, PhD, Vineland's Research Scientist, Biological Control. "Cutting producers do spray for pests during production, however, low levels of whiteflies and thrips can survive and are difficult to detect when they arrive in a facility."

Between July 2017 and March 2018, Vineland sampled chrysanthemum cuttings and found 84 per cent of them contained one or two thrips per batch of 20 cuttings. Given the fact that thrips can lay up to 300 eggs in their lifetime, those small numbers can quickly get out of control. Dipping cuttings into an oil, soap or biopesticide significantly reduces the risk of pests hitching a ride onto planting stock.

"Our three-year research project showed that this technique will take care of 70 to 80 per cent of whiteflies and thrips that come in and basically sets the clock back on pest population development for weeks, so growers can implement a biocontrol program," said Buitenhuis.

What's next? Vineland will begin commercial trials of dips against thrips this fall following testing that was effective in its own greenhouse.

The whitefly project was funded in part by Dümmer Orange, BioWorks, Koppert Canada and Flowers Canada (Ontario) Inc.

The thrips research was funded by the American Floral Endowment in collaboration with BioWorks, Neudorff and collaborating greenhouses in Niagara, ON.

For more information, please contact:  
Rose Buitenhuis, PhD  
Research Scientist, Biological Control  
905-562-0320 x749  
[rose.buitenhuis@vinelandresearch.com](mailto:rose.buitenhuis@vinelandresearch.com)

---

### **Greenhouse tomato time-lapse video**

Check out an entire greenhouse tomato harvest in under two minutes. This video was shot at Vineland's Collaborative Greenhouse Technology Centre between January and May 2018 and features our new hybrid varieties  
<https://tinyurl.com/y8gq8ppf>



*Greenhouse tomato time-lapse video*