

To

Date

Wednesday December 10, 2008

*3 pages from Sonja Peters*

The “CanWest Industry Tour” was part of the CanWest Horticulture Show.

This event is sponsored by the BC Landscape Nursery Association. The tour reported in this report, the “Mountains & Meadows”, was held September 19 from Vancouver.



### VAN BELLE NURSERIES



*Above: Picture of the Dutch rolling bench system.*

*Plants are rolled out on benches and then placed on the ground for winter.*

## VALLEYBROOK GARDENS

Valleybrook Gardens started in 1980 and is now grow on 25 acres.

They grow brand lines (Heritage Perennials, Jeepers Creepers® ) not sold to big box stores. Cuttings are from Costa Rica. Their trials indicate faster rooting than in-house cuttings.



*Above: Plug transplanting machine. Any size plug tray can be placed in the machine. The operator uses the “poppers” to push the plugs from trays (above) to containers (below).*

*Below: Pruning machine to cut perennial cuttings and seedlings.*

*The grower comments this pruning machine produces a more uniform crop.*

*The goal after transplanting is for each plant to look the same.*





## VAN BELLE NURSERIES



*Above: Picture of the Dutch rolling bench system.  
Plants are rolled out on benches and then placed on the ground for winter.*

## KATO NURSERIES



*Above: An automatic staple machine to staple the sticks onto a pot for clematis.  
This process was stated to be "faster and safer".*