GS1 Australia

The Global Language of Business

Barcoding Guide for Production Nurseries

Increasingly retailers are asking growers to put barcodes on their stock because plants need to be scanned in store to enable price, size and species to be displayed.

Barcoding your stock will benefit your business through improved inventory control, propagation forecasting, market insights and budgeting, as well as extended information about the plant.

Step 1

Confirm your customer needs you to provide your own barcodes on your plants.

Step 2

Join GS1 Australia.

Step 3

Complete barcode number allocation training, and then allocate a barcode number and record details for each plant. Barcode numbers should be unique for each Genus/Species/Cultivar/Pot size.

Step 4

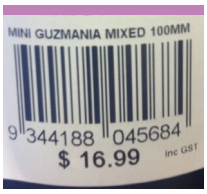
You will need to meet the correct barcode industry printing standards. There are a number of options however you should work with your customer on an agreed label. The following images are for illustrative purposes only. Both c & d would not meet GS1 barcode standards, so we strongly recommend confirming with your customers what is acceptable.

a) **Barcode label** - Select a water resilient paper as well as a good quality printer. The label must be able to be scanned, even after weeks or months of sun and rain.

b) **Preprinted barcode** - Talk to your supplier about printing requirements.

c) **Barcode on plant tag** - Use a label that is easy to clean and a barcode size that can be scanned. If the barcode is too small, it won't scan.

d) **QR code on plant tag** - Use a QR code and a barcode together. You cannot have a QR code alone. Use a label that is easy to clean and QR code and barcode that can be scanned.



a) Barcode label

b) Reprinted barcode

c) Barcode on tag

d) QR code/ Barcode on tag

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Step 5

Talk to your supplier about creating a sample barcode.

Once you have a sample, contact GS1 to arrange barcode testing. When you receive confirmation that the barcodes are correct, you are ready to send barcoded stock to your customer.

Step 6

Provide the barcode information and any other data to your customer before you send stock to the store.

Record and store all data associated with the barcode such as Genus/Species/Cultivar/Pot size.

Step 7

Contact GS1 to discuss how you can apply barcodes and other standards within your business to increase efficiencies.

Benefits of Barcodes

- Scan at the Point-of-Sale (POS)
- Link to associated information in computer systems such as cost and retail pricing.
- Forecast and planning
- Track profit and loss

Training

GS1 provides a variety of traning including classroom style and online training.

Working with Suppliers

Your current suppliers of pots, printers and labels will have experience in barcoding and should be able to guide you through the process. In most cases, you will need to provide detailed specifications about label size, positioning, etc, so that you meet customer requirements.

Data Requirements

Your customer will need to put data into their systems to enable them to both order, then receive, stock from you.

Even if you are a long standing supplier, stores often have trouble receipting plants when no data has been provided ahead of time. This slows down the process of getting stock on show, as well as paying invoices on time.

For more information contact GS1 Australia on 1300 BARCODE (1300 227 263)

Join GS1
www.gs1express.com.au/barcodes

Barcode specifications
www.gs1.org/1/gtinrules/index.php/p=overview

More information
www.gs1au.org/industry/greenlife/

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