

What would happen if your head grower faced an unexpected absence – be it due to injury, a family emergency, or a well-earned sabbatical? Would your facility still be capable of producing the same high-quality plants your customers rely on?

A robust operation doesn't leave such critical questions unanswered. At least once a year – ideally at the end of the busy season – it's important to evaluate key aspects of your operation. This proactive review can ensure the team and systems are equipped to maintain excellence, no matter what challenges the future holds.



✓ Current Staff Skills and Vital Tasks

Understanding the strengths and skill sets of your team is the foundation of a resilient operation. Take stock of critical roles within your facility and identify staff members with the expertise to step into those responsibilities if needed.

This review is also an opportunity to recognise your most promising team members and invest in their development. Whether through targeted training programmes or the integration of new technology, upskilling employees into more advanced roles can build confidence and reduce uncertainty in the face of unexpected staff changes.

A well-prepared team isn't just an insurance policy – it's a step towards a stronger, more agile operation.

✓ Key Dates

Success in horticulture depends as much on timing as on technique. Reviewing key dates and tasks at the end of each season helps your operation adapt to customer demands, shifting weather patterns, and unexpected challenges. Documenting these milestones ensures your team is aligned and prepared for the season ahead.

By planning key tasks – like ordering materials, managing crop schedules, hiring seasonal staff, and cleaning and maintaining equipment – you can streamline operations and help keep everything running smoothly.

✓ Knowledge Partners

The best growers understand that success often comes from knowing where to turn for expertise. Whether troubleshooting challenges, testing new equipment, or experimenting with new crops, having a network of trusted knowledge partners is invaluable.

Take the time to document the experts, consultants, and suppliers your operation relies on. By preserving these connections, your team ensures access to the same high-quality guidance and support – even in your head grower's absence. Surrounding your operation with the right knowledge partners is a key ingredient for consistent performance and innovation.

Sometimes, your knowledge partner is the automation equipment that works round-the-clock – nights, weekends, and every moment in between – to ensure your plants receive the perfect nutrient and pH dosing.

Explore Bluelab's automation solutions designed to keep your operation running smoothly, no matter the time of day.

