Table for compliance monitoring

Florida container plant producers participating in the nitrate nitrogen interim measure program will monitor electrical conductivity (EC) or nitrate nitrogen at least once per month for plants or a group of plants representing at least 50% of plant production. Monitoring is done to ensure nutrient concentrations in containers are not excessive. Optimal EC and nitrate nitrogen concentrations are given in the table. Maintaining these levels should result in desirable plant growth for most plants; however, plant nutrient requirements can vary according to genera and other environmental factors so some judgment based on experience is best.

TABLE 3: Container substrate electrical conductivities (EC) and nitrate nitrogen (NO₃-N) concentrations for compliance with Interim Measure for Florida Producers of Container-grown Plants.

Analysis	Woody plants ^z	Bedding and interior plants ^y
Electrical conductivity, dS/m (mmhos/cm)	0.8 to 1.5	1.5 to 2.8
Nitrate-N, mg/L (ppm)	50 to 100	100 to 200

Plants with low nutritional requirements may grow adequately with lower levels. ^zAdapted from Best Management Practices, Guide for Producing Container-Grown Plants (Yeager, et al. 1997). ^yAdapted from Michigan State Univ. Ag. Facts, Warncke, D. and D. Krauskopf. 1983. Extension Bul. E1736.