

## **The Nursery Group – Member Profile**

### **Colour Options Nursery**

Colour Options Nursery is a Division of Ability Options Ltd, a non-profit organisation which supports people with an intellectual disability living in Greater Western Sydney. Ability Options as a whole supports more than 800 people with living skills, accommodation, job search, employment training and direct employment.

As a business Colour Options Nursery was established in 1995 with two very clear and equal objectives. First, to operate and trade successfully as a fully commercial model delivering financial returns to the organisation. Secondly to do this by employing people with a disability as valued employees each contributing to the success of the business. Employment dignity and commercial success are strong partners at Colour Options Nursery.

Colour Options is a focused grower producing ornamental bedding as potted colour. We are located at St Clair in western Sydney on a 4 hectare site with a growing capacity of more than 1 million plants per annum. We employ 24 people of which 19 have a disability.

We have focused on growing a best in class quality plant that will delight our customers. We produce seasonal blooms which are available 52 weeks of the year under our "Hylites"™ branding. Our quality, reliability of supply and customer service has put "Hylites" plants in all major quality retail nurseries throughout metro Sydney. We also sell to landscapers, chain stores and contract gardeners.

A pleasing aspect of our business is the fact that we are a disability organisation, is transparent to our customers. All our employees are worthy members of a team and by focusing on our employees' abilities, not their disabilities; we have built a reputation in the industry as a quality plant supplier.

Colour Options Nursery is accredited under the Nursery Industry Australia NIASA Guidelines for production nurseries and we are also fully accredited for all 12 Commonwealth Disability Standards for the employment of people with disabilities. Our most significant achievement is however, that customers now look to the "Hylites" brand of potted colour as a benchmark for quality. This is something which makes all of proud to be in the team at Colour Options.

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