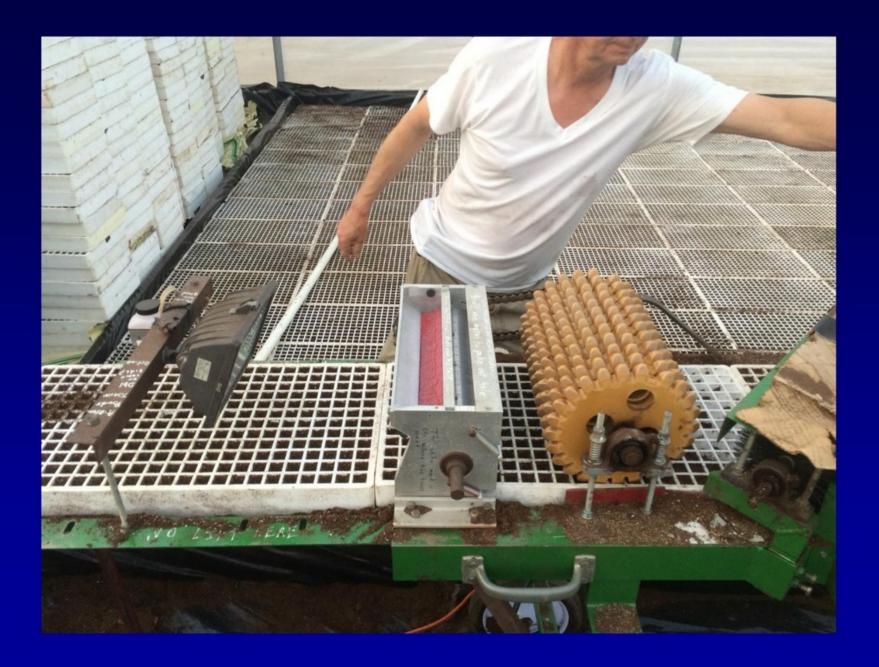
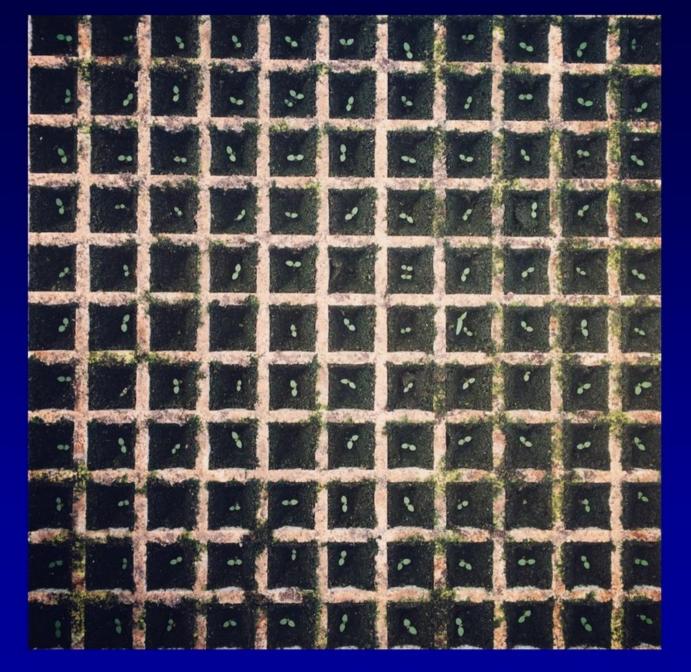
US Tobacco Production Overview

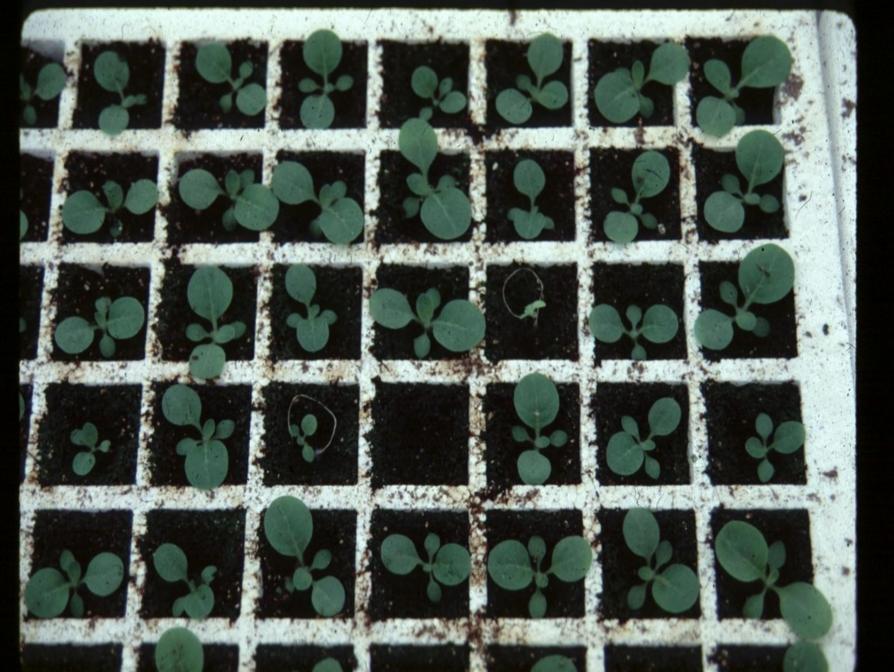


Transplant Production

- Greenhouses are seeded early to middle February in North Carolina
- 55 days to produce a transplant
- Float system, polystyrene trays, 253-392 cells per tray, 288 most common
- Plants are clipped, 8-12 times on average











Field Preparation

- Crop Rotation and Cover Crops
- Soil Fumigants, Insecticides, Fungicides
- Herbicides and Soil Tillage
- Raised Beds



Transplanting

- Begins April 15th 20th
- Mechanical Transplanter
- Spacing 22" X 48"
- 5,500-6,500 plants per acre
- Water in Furrow







- Cultivation
 - weed control
 - build up raised bed
- 1st fertilizer applied at 1st cultivation
- Sidedress fertilizer application 3-4 weeks after transplanting
- Last cultivation 4-6 weeks after transplanting





- Topped about 60-65 days after transplanting
- Sucker Control Chemicals applied
 - Fatty Alcohol
 - flumetralin, butralin
 - Maleic hydrazide



- First Harvest is about 80 days after transplanting (early July)
- 4-7 leaves each harvest
- 3-4 harvests per season over the next 50 75 days, depending upon the season
- Frost-free period in NC is April 20th through October 20th (180 days)



















- Bulk Cured
- 7-8 days to cure
- Baled in 650-850 lb bales

Typical Curing Schedule for Flue-Cured Tobacco

