California Polytechnic State University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For Best Selection, Lowest Prices, Order Cal Poly Poinsettias Now

photo of students with poinsettias
SAN LUIS OBISPO - Cal Poly Horticulture and Crop Science students are ready to take orders for poinsettias soon to be in full bloom and available to the public for holiday decorating.

Six students have taken on the College of Agriculture's annual Poinsettia Enterprise Project and have nurtured nearly 3,000 seasonal plants in the campus greenhouse.

For the best selection and lowest prices, churches, businesses, organizations and individuals who would like to order poinsettias are encouraged to contact the student enterprise project at (805) 550-5747 by Thanksgiving. After that, prices go up; color and size choices will likely be limited.

The plants are sold by container size, with smaller ones costing $5.50 to $7.75 and medium-sized pots containing multiple plants priced at $9.50 to $14. Huge display plants measuring 4 feet tall and 3 feet wide cost $42 to $50, and poinsettia "trees" are $40 to $45. The students will also be selling poinsettia hanging baskets and centerpieces.

While bright red is the traditional color for these holiday blooms, the Cal Poly students will offer plants of many other colors, as well. There are white, pink, purple, salmon and mottled shades to choose from, with names like "Jingle Bells," "Freedom Fireworks," "Snowcaps," "Shimmer Pink" and "Strawberries and Cream."

Plants may be delivered anywhere in the county free for orders of $200 or more. For other orders, there is a $15 delivery charge within the city of San Luis Obispo and $25 outside the city, but within the county.

Poinsettias will be sold at the Cal Poly Plant Shop at retail prices during an open house on Friday, Dec. 3 and at two Saturday sales, Dec. 4 and Dec. 11. The plant shop is located on Via Carta at the north end of campus and is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Proceeds from poinsettia sales go to the Cal Poly Foundation, the College of Agriculture and the student enterprise project.

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