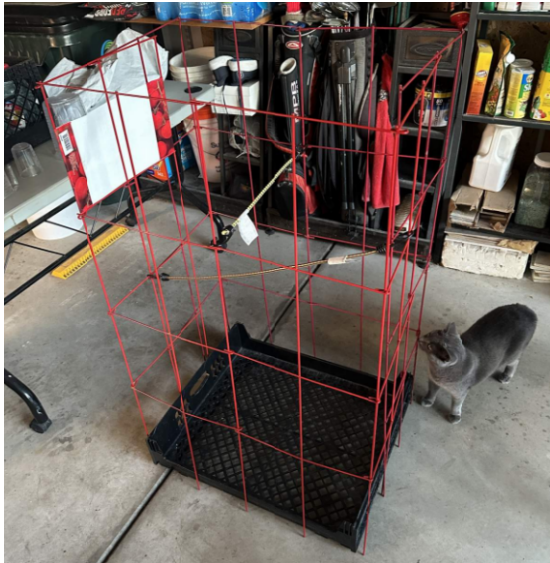


### 06.14.26: Mike's Pot Tuber Supply List and Care (Hyperlinks are active):

- [Bread Trays](#) nominally 22"x26.5"
- [Tomato Cages](#), Lowes, need two per bread tray
- 4-1/2" [square pots](#) place the cuttings in a checker board pattern with pots just filled with soilless
- 4-1/2" [square pot carrying trays](#) , 2 per bread tray, fit great.
- [Twist Ties](#), Lowes, to tie the Tomato Cages together
- [Garden Mesh](#): 10-ft x 2.0-ft Galvanized Steel Hardware Cloth Rolled Fencing 1/4-in x 1/4-in - Mesh Size (to keep our Rabbit friends out... among other varmints!).
- [Jute Twine](#), as the Dahlias grow, I make a grid of twine at various levels of the cage
- Plant Tags: be sure to tag each plant, I also label the pots with painters tape
- [Soilless](#) Promix from Ace or [Pesche's Potting Mix](#) (which is about half the price of Ace's product).
- Fertilizer and Pesticides: Standard stuff and apply with frequency used for the garden.



Tomato cage and bread tray; GreyC as QC



Alternate empty pots with cuttings in tray on ground. Or just put pots in the ground itself.





Cuttings added to bread tray.



Mesh for rabbit protection.



Jute twine "grid" to support plants as they grow taller.



Just let the Dahlias grow... use pesticide and disease control as they grow. No need to strip laterals or disbud...



Still growing... very dense foliage, remove some as necessary for better air flow



Killer Frost, time to cut down and move inside.



Since I grow mine "above" ground, I store them right away; do not let them freeze.



Cut the pot tubers down to top of soilless and leave in the pots and store in cool location (I store in refrigerator at 48°F)



In spring, wake them up and get ready for lots of sprouts... see last photo below of this one.



Pot Tuber out of the pot



Sprouts starting up!



Pots in tray on the right are the pot tubers...



Here are 4 pot tubers still propagating after many, many cuttings!



Close up of pot tuber still going strong... after many cuttings and still more cuttings to be done

#### **Google Summary:**

A **pot tuber dahlia** is a dahlia plant that has been grown and stored in a small container (typically a 4-inch pot) rather than in the open ground. The pot can be put in the ground, or above the ground. Just let the plant grow. The restricted growing environment forces the plant to form a tight, compact, and dense ball of tubers. These compact roots are highly productive for propagating cuttings the following season.

#### **Why Growers Use Pot Tubers**

- **Ideal for Propagation:** Because the tuber is compact but retains a complete root system, it is specifically designed to produce multiple healthy shoots in the spring. Growers use these shoots to take plant cuttings, allowing them to multiply a single, rare, or prize-winning dahlia into dozens of new plants.
- **Easy and Safe to Ship:** Pot tubers take up significantly less space than large field-grown tuber clumps. Furthermore, they are often shipped in clean, soil-free potting mix, making them easier to legally ship across different states and regions without agricultural restrictions.
- **Better Over-Wintering:** Because the tubers do not stretch out or take on awkward, brittle shapes, they are remarkably easy to store over the winter in a cool, dark garage or basement.

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End of notes.