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Today's News

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Muranaka Farm breaks ground for new facility

By John Chadwell

(Aug. 11, 11:11 a.m.) Muranaka Farm Inc., Moorpark, Calif., is building an 18,000-square-foot cooler and shipping facility.

Ground breaking took place in mid-July.

"We'll be shipping all of our products from it," said John Killeen, vice president of sales and marketing. "We grow green onions during the summer in Moorpark, but we also do cilantro, parsley, kale, radishes, beets and leafy greens year-round in the area."

Killeen said the facility is scheduled to open in mid-December. He said the company's existing cooler is more than 30 years old.

"The new one will be top of the line in terms of certification and all the food safety requirements," he said. "It will also give us a lot of the efficiencies that come from having a new facility."

He said the current facility would be retrofitted and remodeled.

"We'll use it for some opportunities that still need to be determined," he said.

He said the new facility would offer four times the capacity of the older building.

"It will offer a more efficient program all the way through," Killeen said. "To coincide with it, we're also going to start using a new software program that will tie everything together, from appointment systems, inventory control, sales orders and traceability. Ultimately, we'll be able to provide a better service level to our customers."

[E-mail John Chadwell](#)



Adam Sides (left), commodity manager/sales, and Matt Gillio, operations manager, for Muranaka Farm Inc., Moorpark, Calif., break ground on a new cooler and shipping facility that should be up and running in mid-December.



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