Thinning Protocol

1. Thinning should be done the 15rd day of life for the plants, and so will be staggered according to the dates when the racks were moved into the chamber.
2. Hot sync the m500 PDA that has the germination run … file on it before starting and record on the log whether or not the hot sync was successful.
3. Before thinning can occur, get a list of seedlings to be saved from Ellen and make sure that there are pots for the seedlings to be transplanted into.
4. Look at the rack in question and each pot. To decide which plant to be thinned, compare the plants present in the pot. Pick the plant that is biggest, healthiest-looking, has little-to-no salt damage (the tips of the leaves are white when salt damage has occurred), and is rooted best in the Turface. If there are plants that are flowering in the pot, the plant selected should be flowering.
5. If there is only one plant in the pot then record in the comments column comment number 14 and the JULIAN date. Remember to record which plant it is in the **PSE** column.
6. If there is more than one plant present in the pot however they are all small, keep them all and record in the comments column, comment number 15 and record the Julian date. If there is more than one plant but they all look sick (purple or yellow leaves) do not take any out and record in the comments column comment number 15 and the Julian date.
7. Record in the m500 PDA in the germination file which plant you have decided to keep. Make sure after thinning has been completed for the day to update the **PSE** in the first flower file on the m500 PDA.
8. Once you have decided which plant to keep, remove the other ones taking care not to disturb the saved plant. If the plant is to be saved, then transplant it. Otherwise, dispose of it properly.
9. After you are completely done for the day, hot sync the m500 PDA and check that it worked. Record on the log the time of hot sync and success.
10. Update the **PSE** column in the First Flower file and any comments recorded taking care to double-check your work.