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Grow House Raid Yields More Than 250 Pounds of Pot

The Sarasota County Sheriff's Office Special Investigations Section, working jointly with the North Port Police Department, seized more than 300 marijuana plants in one of the largest grow house busts to date.

During the execution of a search warrant at 3811 Albin Ave., North Port, investigators found several rooms being utilized for the operation, and two privacy fences concealing five air conditioning units. Investigators found 313 pots with the roots still attached inside the residence. It appeared the suspects had recently harvested the plants in that stalks appeared to be recently cut.

The discovery of a lighted miner-type hat led investigators to believe some of the activities had occurred under the cover of darkness and that the plants could be hidden nearby. After an exhaustive search, 14 large leaf bags were located approx 100 yards to the rear of the residence in the woods. All the bags were full of the freshly cut cannabis plants weighing 257.5 lbs.

The investigation is continuing.