

Awake at crack of dawn to ensure highest-quality grapes for clients

Xi Lingyan and Tom Qian

IT'S the best season to taste the succulent and sweet fruits grown in the district, including luscious Malu grapes.

As early as 4am, Xie Xueqi in Malu Town woke up and walked to the grape field inside plastic green houses to pick grapes.

"Fresh grapes are the best in quality, so I get up early to pick the grapes and deliver them to clients early in the morning. They can receive fresh fruit the same day. To delay for a day means less tasty grapes for

clients," Xie said.

"This morning I have to deliver 250 kilograms of grapes, so I need to pick and package them before the deliveryman arrived," he added.

Xie and his wife came to Jiading from Henan Province in central China more than a decade ago. He learned the skills to plant grapes in Malu, as Malu is a famous brand in Shanghai. He then became a professional grape grower with a parcel of land about the size of a standard soccer field.

To pick the highest-quality

grapes, Xie must carefully observe the grape spike and then peel open the paper bag that wrapped around the fruit for pest control and preventing from being eaten by birds. After confirming the fruit was fully grown and ready to pick, he then cut the bag of grapes and gently put it into a basket.

In order to grow the highest-quality grapes, Xie participated in several training sessions to learn about the latest planting technology.

"If the grapes are grown freely, the yield is indeed high, but

the quality is not. Therefore, I accurately control the weight of each bundle of grapes by trimming the spikes several times," Xie said.

He can pick around 50 kilograms of grapes in half an hour. To pick 250 kilograms, it takes him around two hours.

Before the delivery man arrives, Xie and his wife are busy weighing the grapes and then packaging them. Before putting them in boxes, however, he checks the grapes one last time to ensure the highest quality and customer satisfaction.

Neighborhood centers and demonstration sites in works

Qin Jian and Chen Chen

DURING the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025), Jiading will create 66 "Wo Jia" neighborhood centers, along with 14 demonstration sites that will be built this year.

This endeavor is a new step to improve social management and service capacity and enhance residents' sense of gain and satisfaction.

Compared with the urban centers, the suburbs have a rather narrow base for integrated community services with insufficient intermediate tiers, as the service radius is too large for towns and too small for villages.

"Jiading will form a closed-loop system with strong rapid response to enhance our social governance capabilities and develop our soft power through online and offline interaction," said Li Jian, director of the Jiading urban operation and management center.

In this regard, Jiading is exploring the possibility of creating a "community service circle" where a service center for residents is defined within a 15-minute walk.

As a pilot project, the eastern Nanxiang neighborhood center has added additional integrated service windows and a corporate service window. A 24-hour self-service is available as well.

At the same time, nearly 20 community services, such as restaurants, bookstores and daycare centers, have been incorporated into the neighborhood center.

"It has brought a lot of convenience, as most basic living services are available here," said a resident surnamed Zhang.

Sensors are installed on part of the advertisement boards.

"Once the advertisement boards become loose or have the possibility of falling, the sensor will beep to alert us to deal with the problem as soon as possible," said Zhang Xiaolu, staff of the eastern Nanxiang neighborhood center.

District a new base for digital industries

Bu Yu, Wang Jiajun and Tom Qian

JIADING Now Factory Online New Economy Industrial Park opened last month, which aims to accelerate the development of the livestreaming and short video industries.

The industrial park is one of the first livestreaming and short video bases in Shanghai.

It's the latest digital development in Jiading which aims to be a new base for short videos, digital industries and online recreational bases in the region.

"We encountered a lot of difficulty in promoting our online shopping platform last year. Now with the professional base, we can concentrate on our brand building and product research and development," said Mou Liang, founder of Nya Karlek, a cosmetics brand.

Mou's company has set up an office at Hongqiao International Digital Commercial Livestreaming Base in Nanxiang Town, where there are more than 20 livestreaming rooms covering over 3,000 square meters to sell products and promote brands.

"With the livestreaming facilities, we aim to provide the support to a number of mainstream anchors," said Zhou Tao who is in charge of the operation of the base.

The base offers training for anchors, features more than 100,000 products in its online shop and provides branding opportunities with big data analysis.

Jiading will speed up to form an "Internet plus Culture" mode, combining the modern and traditional industries to attract more high-quality livestreaming platforms.



• Honoring medics battle against COVID-19

Visitors admire a photo at the "Focusing Healthy Jiading" exhibition, which marks the fourth Chinese Doctors Day on August 19, at the Jiading Federation of Trade Unions. A total of 150 artworks and 30 photographs are on display, showcasing the grit and dedication of medical workers during the fight against COVID-19. The exhibition runs through September 18.

— Yang Yujie

Technology of smart window developed

Li Huacheng, Xu Yinyi and Tom Qian

COOPERATED with scientists in Germany and Britain, a research team from Shanghai Institute of Ceramics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, has developed a smart window that can not only generate electricity, but also save energy.

It uses wavelength-selective absorption film coupled with thermoelectric devices to convert solar heat into electrical energy.

The film allows visible light to pass through and can absorb invisible ultraviolet and infrared rays, then converting them into heat energy.

The process consists of making inorganic crystal material into a thin film to give it optical properties, attaching it to an intermediate layer of hollow glass and installing electrodes around it. The transmittance of the glass can be designed according to people's needs, leveraging the invisible light from the sun to produce energy, said Cao Xun, the researcher.

Currently, the new technology combines transparent photovoltaic cells with architectural glass, so power generation efficiency is often offset by window transparency.

The technology is expected to be put into

commercial use in two years, as it is still in the research and development stage.

According to statistics from the International Energy Agency, buildings and their related energy consumption account for more than one-third of the world's total energy consumption, and the contribution of building energy to global carbon dioxide emissions is close to 40 percent.

Therefore, the use of buildings to achieve energy saving and even power generation has become an important measure to promote green development and is of great significance to the full realization of energy saving and emission reduction goals.