

**Family:** Compositae **Use:** Outdoor containers, pot and pack suitable for borders and beds.

**Plant type:** Annual **Height in pot:**7-10 cm (3-4 in.)

Garden height: 15-20 cm (5-8 in.)

Seed count: 7,400 seeds/gram (210,000 seeds/oz.) Seed count varies by variety and seed lot.

Seed form: Raw and pelleted.

## Germination:

Media pH 5.5 to 6.0 media with very low soluble salt levels EC 0.5-0.75 **Stage 1: radicle emergence** 

Temperature: 20-22°C (68-72°F)

Radicle emerge will occur in 7-10 days. Keep media wet. Do not cover seeds need light for a uniform germ.

### Stage 2: expanding stem and cotyledons

Keep media moist, temperature can to 18°C (64°F). Reduce moisture levels to obtain optimum root penetration and to prevent fungal diseases. Prevent wet foliage after nightfall.

### Stage 3: development of first true leaves

Temperature days 18°C (64°F) EC 0.75-1.0 Allow to dry slightly between watering without wilting. Water early in the morning to allow foliage to dry before nightfall.

### Stage 4: finishing/holding stage

Plugs are ready for transplant or shipping. Temperature can be dropped to 16-18°C (60-64°F) EC 1.0-1.5

### Growing on:

After 4-5 weeks plants can be transplanted. It will take 6-7 weeks to finish in the pack. Allow an extra week for 4-inch pots.

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Media: a well-drained, porous media is best to prevent over watering. pH 5.5-6.0.

# EC. 0.75-1.50

Moderate fertilization levels are required. Fertilize the crop weekly with 100-150 ppm using a complete ba-' lanced fertilizer. Avoid high ammonium and high nitrogen levels, causes iron deficiency. Apply chelated iron, if chlorosis becomes a problem. To prevent magnesium deficiency apply magnesium sulphate (0,025%) 1 -2 times.

Moisture: allow media to dry between watering, allow to dry slightly between waterings without wilting. Water early in the morning to allow foliage to dry before nightfall. Drought stress causes leaf burn.

### Light:

Optimum light level is 18.000-22.000 lux (1800-2200 foot candles). Long days (>14 hrs) will promote early flowering.

### **Growth regulators:**

Ageratum responds to: Daminozide, (Dazide, B-nine)

### **Pests:**

Spider mites, Thrips, Aphids and Whitefly Control: common insecticides can be used, check for labelled products.

### **Diseases:**

Botrytis blight, Rhizoctonia, Rust, Pythium, Powdery and Downy mildew. Control: Use labelled fungicides to prevent and/or cure problems. Avoid cool and wet conditions.

### **Scheduling:**

Sowing		Pottin	g	Flowering
wk 4	wk	7-8	wk 14-2	15
wk 7	wk	10-11	wk 16-2	17
Wk 9	wk	12-13	wk 18-2	19

### Advice:

Allow to dry slightly between watering's without wilting. Water early in the morning to allow foliage to dry before nightfall.