

## **TRANSPLANTING**

Remove the plugs carefully from the tray to prevent damage to the roots. To prevent delayed and reduced number of shoot, do not bury the plug when transplanting. Keep the top of the plug level with the soil of the finished pot.

Container sizes and crop times

8 inch = ~16 weeks

10 inch = ~18 weeks

12 inch = ~20 weeks

## **GROWING MEDIA**

Plant into a well-draining, medium to coarse-textured growing mix. Mix in more perlite, pumice, coir, or bark to avoid compaction and shrinkage of media when growing in larger pot sizes.

## **TEMPERATURE**

Ideal daily average growing temperature 55-58 F (13-14 C). If grown lower than 50 F (10 C) average, rhizomes can go dormant. Keep the soil temperature below 60 F (15.5 C) if grown in warmer temperatures. Alstroemeria does not grow or flower well at temperatures >80 F (27 C), so plan on growing this crop for spring sales only, unless in Northern regions. If grown cooler than ideal, flowering will be delayed. If grown warmer than ideal, plants will not be as compact.

## **LIGHT**

Alstroemeria likes high light levels and cool soil temperatures, as the plant is originally from the Andes mountains. Provide light levels >3000 footcandles or >5 moles per day (DLI). Lower light levels will delay flowering by 7 - 10 days. Avoid high leaf and soil temperatures when using high light levels. Will flower up to 2 weeks faster with longer days and more total light.

## **WATER AND FEED**

Alstroemeria is a thirsty crop, so keep even moisture in containers and avoid too dry or too wet. Feed as needed with 150 - 200 ppm N from balanced fertilizers such as 15-5-15, 17-5-17, or 13-2-13, which contain calcium and magnesium. Avoid using controlled release fertilizers when growing cool, as less N available to plants at that cool temperature and salts may build up. If leaves turning more yellow, increase ppm or feed more often. Keep media at pH 6.0 - 6.5 as this plant likes more alkaline conditions. Maintain media EC 2.0 - 2.5 (SME).

**GROWTH REGULATORS** - None needed

## **FLOWERING**

Controlled more by photoperiod, total light, and cool temperatures. Remove old flowering stalks and leaves by pulling up quickly from the base. This technique will allow continuous flowering of plants. Do not cut them off. If needed, pull out blind shoots to improve flowering.

## **INSECTS AND DISEASES**

Thrips, aphids, slugs and snails, fungus gnats, root rots (especially Pythium), Botrytis.

## **DISCLAIMER**

The information in this catalogue is based on our experiences from trials in The Netherlands. The growing information above should be used as a guideline and be adapted to your own circumstances and climate. Könst Alstroemeria B.V. cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies, given advice and/or incomplete information obtained in this catalogue.