

easy grow guide

ivy geranium reach out

(F1 Pelargonium peltatum)



Plug Production: 288 plugs or larger

Sowing/Media:	Use a well-drained, disease-free, peat-based plug medium with pH 6.0-6.2, EC <0.75mmhos. Media should be saturated before sowing. After sowing, cover seeds completely with a good layer of vermiculite or vermiculite/media mixture and irrigate again to make sure covering is wet.
Germination Stage 1 & 2: (5-7 days)	Once seedlings are hooking above the covering, the surface can be dried down slightly between irrigations. Reach Out will germinate successfully at media temperatures between 61-72°F (16-22°C). 64-68°F (18-20°C) is the optimum for faster, more uniform emergence. Avoid temperatures higher than 72°F (22°C) though as thermodormancy may occur. Keep light levels <1500 f.c. Light is not essential for germination but can be beneficial.
Germination Stage 3:	Maintain media temperature between 61-68°F (16-20°C). Light levels should be <3000 f.c. HID lights can promote growth and faster flowering in periods of low light. Fertilize with 100-150ppm N from 15-5-15, 17-5-17 or 13-2-13, keep media pH at 6.0-6.5 no lower and EC <1.5mmhos.
Germination Stage 4:	Media temperatures can be lowered to 61-65°F (16-18°C), light levels should be maintained around 3000 f.c. Dry down between irrigations but avoid wilt. Fertilize with 100-150ppm N from 13-2-13 to tone seedlings. Good light levels and moisture management are effective for growth control. If required sprays of Cycocel (250-750 ppm) or B-Nine (800-1500) + Cycocel (250-500 ppm) will control growth starting when 3 true leaves are present.

Growing On to Finish: Packs, 4" (10cm) pots, baskets

Media:	Use a well-drained, disease free, peat-based growing mix with pH 6.0-6.2 (no lower) and EC <1.5mmhos.
Temperatures:	Temperatures for growing on should be 65-68°F (18-22°C). Night temperatures can be lowered to 61-65°F (16-18°C) to help tone plants.
Light:	Reach out is day neutral. Accumulation of light will trigger flowering. Light levels should be 3000-5000 f.c. as a guide. HID lights can be used in low light periods to encourage flowering.
Irrigation:	Practice a good wet/dry moisture cycle but avoid wilting. Geraniums do not like to be too wet; They can tolerate mild wilting, but too often can cause salt damage around the roots.
Fertilizer:	Feed regularly with 150-200 ppm N from 15-5-15, 17-5-17, or 13-2-13, leaching occasionally. It is best to use calcium based fertilizers. Extra iron can be added if needed. Keep media pH 6.0-6.8, and media EC 1.25-1.75 mmhos, any higher can cause root damage.
Growth Regulators:	Good light levels and moisture management are effective for growth control. If required you can use sprays of Cycocel (350-1500 ppm) or B-Nine (800-1500) + Cycocel (350-1000 ppm) to control growth. Bonzi sprays (2-5 ppm) can also be used once the foliage reaches the edge of the container. It is best to run your own trials to avoid overdosing, as weather and cultural regimes can affect the requirements
Pests:	Aphids, Thrips
Diseases:	Pythium, Botrytis, Bacterial Blight. Chlorosis on lower leaves is likely to be caused by media pH <6.0, upper yellow leaves (interveinal) – iron deficiency caused by high media pH >6.5.

Plug Times:

128 plug:	7-8 weeks from sowing to transplant
288 plug:	5-6 weeks from sowing to transplant

Transplant to Finish:

Container	Plants per Container	Transplant to Finish	Total Crop Time
4" (10cm):	1 x plug (288)	8-9 weeks	13-15 weeks
12" (30cm) basket:	6 x plug (288)	10-11 weeks	15-17 weeks

Crop times are based on UK Spring trials. Alternative environmental conditions and cultural regimes can alter the crop times stated above.