



Transplant

To transplant Gypsophila; 110cm wide beds are recommended, leaving 50cm between sowing roads, length varies according to each farm, planting density should be of 20cm between plants and 22cm between grooves (8 to 10 plants/m²), each bed should have 2 drip irrigation lines.

Stringing with sowing mesh is required, one low sowing mesh 20cm from bottom of floor, another sowing mesh to be adjusted according to plant growth.

Total light exposure is required to flourish; because it is a long photoperiod flowering plant, flowering should be induced using 12 to 14 hours of light exposure; keep in mind that photoperiod is related to temperature.

Long days or artificial light (minimum 8 foot candles) should be supplied between the 3rd and 5th week after transplant, giving 3 effective hours in intervals of 5x5

Fore stripping is done when the plant has reached a length superior to 18cm and or 3 to 4 pairs of leaves counting from top to bottom.

A first application of gibberellic acid (GA₃) of 250 ppm is given 2 to 3 days after fore stripping and a second one 8 to 10 days after. Such applications of gibberellic acid should be done at first hour of the morning when temperatures are still low.



Fig. 2 transplant on field - stringing

Irrigation

Quantity of water to be applied will depend on soil characteristics, weather conditions and plant growth.

Humidity should be maintained at field capacity at early growth stages, when panicles form reduces irrigation by 50% and a week before harvest by 30%.

During pruning irrigation should be suspended one week before and it should be re-established one week after.

Fertilization

Chemical fertilization should begin during growth stages, beginning on the 2nd week and finishing when flower begins to show color. At early growth stages; applications should have a high content on phosphorus and nitrogen and at late stages they should have a high one on calcium.

Foliar applications are recommended, and on the 9th week an application of monopotassium phosphate should be done. When stems get glassy; calcium, boron and zinc applications are recommended.

When panicles are being formed; a foliar magnesium application is recommended to improve opening.

Cut

Average cutting cycle; 18 to 20 weeks, with peak concentrations on the 15th to 17th week. They could increase or diminish depending on weather conditions.

Cut under greenhouse production could be done at 70 to 80 % of flower opening.

Cut under outdoor production could be done at 20% of flower opening, to finish the opening in the room during 5 to 7 days at a temperature of 25c to 28 c with a relative humidity of 90%.



Fig.3. close point cut minimum 20% maximum 30%



Fig.4. Ginga way open flowers

After flowering; this species should be pruned or lessened to 2 or 3 cm. It should be done with pruners, doing clean cuts without tears, and then apply a fungicide protector to seal the wound.

Pests and plant diseases: sensitive to Minador (*Liriomyza* Sp.) and Botrytis, it is important to do preventive applications.

Post Harvest

It should be hydrated for 2 hours in STS (silver thiosulphate) to then use a hydrating solution in post harvest (5g/l).

Cold room storage:

Maximum storage time 5 to 8 days, at a temperature of 2 to 4 c and a relative humidity of 85%; it should be guaranteed that each box of flowers receive the same cold conditions no matter its location. It is important to maintain cold room walls and floors clean; using disinfectants and bactericides once per week.



Fig.5. Post harvest hydration

“La información que contiene este documento establece pautas generales del cultivo no una receta, por lo tanto se recomienda hacer los ajustes necesarios de acuerdo a las condiciones climáticas, características y prácticas de cada finca”.

