

Cultural recommendation

Osteospermum

Description

Name: Osteospermum ecklonis

Family: Asteraceae

Series: FlowerPower®, Plaisir®, SummerHero®, 3D



Product use

Use: Bedding and balcony plant

Exposure: Full sun – half shaded

Technical recommendations

Potting and Spacing: Spacing 25-30 plants /m² for a 12 cm pot. Osteospermum works well in a wide range of containers. Estimated finish crop time starting from a RC.

Pot Size	Early sales (March) weeks		Late sales (April) weeks	
	North	South	North	South
10,5 cm	18-20	13-15	7-8	
12 cm	20-23	15-17	8-10	7-8

Recommended number of cuttings per pot size:

Pot Size	# of cuttings
10-15	1
16-20	2-3
25-30	3-4

Substrate: Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium with a good structure and pH 5.8-6.2. As a basic fertilization starter of 1,0-1,5 g/l compound fertilizers should be in the substrate. Periodically, monitor the media and try to keep the pH below 6.5 to avoid iron deficiencies.

Fertilizer: Start feeding when first roots become visible. Use a complete fertilizer 15-10-15 N-P-K with Ca, Mg and micronutrients at 1-1,5 gr/l in every watering. Supplemental feeding with additional iron and magnesium will help to prevent deficiencies. Slow-release fertilizer may be beneficial in supplementing fertilizer under outdoor production conditions.

Water: During the first stages do not over-saturate the media which may cause slows root development and promote diseases. Media should be allowed to moderately dry between irrigations to prevent diseases and promote stronger growth. However, avoid drying out and wilting

Technical recommendations

Temperature: First 2-4 weeks keep temperature at 17-18°C (63-64°F) night and 20-22°C (68-72°F) day until the crop is well established. When the side shoots have approximately 3 cm length, the temperature could decrease gradually down to 4-6°C (39-43°F) night and 13-16°C (55-61°F) day. For spring production keep night 12-14°C (54-57°F) and day 14-16°C (57-61°F).

For northern climates start the crop of the most compact varieties early in spring instead of autumn/winter

Light: Optimum range is between 50- 65 Klux during autumn-winter production and 45-55 Klux in the spring depending on the temperature. In low light regions, supplemental light (> 3 Klux) is beneficial for early spring flowering. Osteospermum is a day neutral plant but growth and flower development is accelerated under long day conditions, high light levels and ADT >20°C. Plants under low light conditions (<35 Klux) will stretch and produce less flowers

Pinching: 10-15 days after potting, when the plants are established with a good root development. Make a soft pinch and leave 5-6 nodes for a 12 cm pot

Growth regulation: Providing cool temperatures, high light and keeping the media on the dry side, will help to prevent the stretch. PGR's: it's recommended to use Clormequat (Cycocel) and/or Daminozide (Dazide/Alar/B-nine). Do not spray with PGR's when flower buds appear and during flowering time.

These recommendations for plant growth regulators should be used only as general guidelines. Growers must trial all PGR under their conditions and follow the registration uses of each chemical in their country.

Pest and diseases:

Osteospermum is sensitive to various pest. Thrips, aphids, spider mites, caterpillars and white fly are the most common pest. Start with clean material a well disinfected facilities together with a proper pest management program using different control strategies: exclusion, monitoring, biological and chemical control, are the best tools to control these pests.

Osteospermum is also sensitive to some diseases like Botrytis, Pythium, Rhizoctonia and Phytophthora. Disease management should be addressed by sanitation strategies, environmental conditions control, biological and chemical control. For the chemical control, follow the registration uses of each product in each region.

Crop schedule * 12 cm pot

Autumn-Winter Production*

Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
North	P	Pi																					F	F
South	P	Pi														F	F							

P: Potting. Pi: Pinching. F: Finish plant

* This is a reference time schedule that can vary depending on the variety, growing conditions and region. Schedule start from RC

Cultural recommendation

Crop schedule * 12 cm pot

Spring Production

Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
North	P	Pi							F	F
South	P	Pi					F	F		

P: Potting. Pi: Pinching. F: Finish plant

* This is a reference time schedule that can vary depending on the variety, growing conditions and region. Schedule start from RC

NOTE: Growers should use the information presented here as guidelines only. Selecta One recommends that growers conduct a trial of products under their own conditions. Crop times will vary depending on the climate, location, time of year, and greenhouse environmental conditions. It is the responsibility of the grower to read and follow all the current label directions relating to the products. Nothing herein shall be deemed a warranty or guaranty by Selecta One of any products listed herein