

# Saxifraga Lofty™

## Culture Guide



**Botanical name:** *Saxifraga x arendsii*

**Product form:** Seed

**Containers:** Quarts, Gallons

**Habit:** Mounding

**Vernalization:** Required

Garden Specifications

**Garden Height:** 4–5" (10–13 cm) tall

**Garden Width:** 5–6" (13–15 cm) wide

**Exposure:** Part shade–Full sun

**USDA zone:** 5–8

**AHS zone:** 8–5

**Product use:** Containers, Landscapes, Combinations

Germination

Stages 1 & 2

**Germination time:** 7–11 days

**Media temp:** 68–72 °F (20–22 °C)

**Chamber:** Optional

**Light:** Not required for germination

**Seed cover:** Yes

**Moisture level:** Instructions with definitions of soil moisture levels **4 - WET:** Soil is dark brown but not shiny, no free water is seen at the surface of the soil, when pressed or squeezed water drips easily, and trays are heavy with a visible bend in the middle.

**Rec. tray size:** 288-cell tray

**Seeds per cell:** 2

Young Plant Production

Stages 3 & 4

**Temperature**

**Day:** 62–64 °F (17–18 °C)

**Night:** 66–68 °F (19–20 °C)

**Average daily temperature:** 65 °F (19 °C)

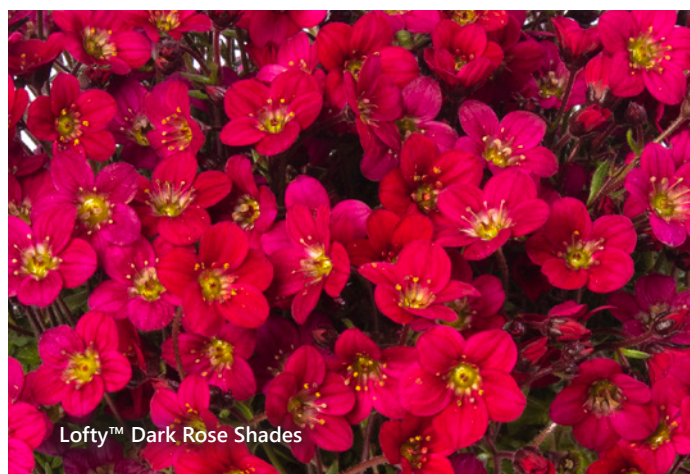
**Lighting**

**Day extension lighting:** Not necessary

**Light intensity:** 200–250  $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  for the first two weeks after sowing or until root development occurs. Light levels can be increased up to 600  $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  as rooting increases and the seedling matures.

**Day length response:** Day neutral

**Daily light integral:** 12–14  $\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{d}^{-1}$



**Media pH:** 5.8–6.2

**Media EC:** SME 0.25 to 0.5 mS/cm

**Fertilizer:** 50–75 ppm N

**Moisture level:** Media should be allowed to dry between irrigations. Alternate between moisture level 2 and 3.

**2 - MEDIUM:** Soil is light brown in color, no water can be extracted from soil, and soil will crumble apart.

**3 - MOIST:** Soil is brown in color, strongly squeezing the soil will extract a few drops of water, and trays are light with no visible bend.

**Pinching:** No

**Plant growth regulators (PGRs):** Not necessary

**Plug grow time:** 9–10 weeks in a 288-cell tray

**Comments:** Keep evenly moist and don't allow to dry out completely. Although germination is about 65–70%, it is best seeded with 2 seeds per plug to maintain even developing plants. Too many seeds per plug results in uneven finished pots.

Bulking and Vernalization

**Vernalization:** Required

**Bulking**

**Bulking Time:** See Scheduling Section

**Temperature:** 64–66 °F (18–19 °C)

**Pinch:** No

**PGR:** Not necessary

**Vernalization**

**Vernalization Time:** 9–12 weeks

**Temperature:** 35–45 °F (2–7 °C)



Lofty™ White Blush

**Tech tip:** When bulking, allow only enough time to grow within 1" (2.5 cm) of the edge of the finish container before the start of vernalization. This will decrease the chance of disease during vernalization.

### Finishing

#### Temperature

**Day:** 66–68 °F (19–20 °C)

**Night:** 54–56 °F (12–13 °C)

**Average daily temperature:** 65 °F (18 °C)

#### Lighting

**Day extension lighting:** Not necessary

**Light intensity:** 1,200–1,600  $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$

**Day length response:** Day neutral

**Daily light integral:** 14–16  $\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{d}^{-1}$

**Transplanting:** Transplant directly into the finished container. Place the rooting media slightly above the level of media in the container. Make sure that the root ball is covered and that the plug is situated in the center of the pot.

**Media pH:** 5.8–6.2

**Media EC:** SME EC: 0.9–1.3 mS/cm, PourThru EC: 1.4–2.0 mS/cm

**Fertilizer:** 75–125 ppm N

**Pinching:** No. Pinching is not recommended or needed.

**Plant growth regulators (PGRs):** Not necessary

**Tech tip:** Keep evenly moist and don't allow to completely dry out for uniform and consistent flowering.



Try Chrysal Alesco®, a postharvest foliar spray, to protect ethylene sensitive crops during shipping and retail.

**Moisture level:** Media should be allowed to dry between irrigations. Alternate between moisture level 2 and 3.

**2 - MEDIUM:** Soil is light brown in color, no water can be extracted from soil, and soil will crumble apart.

**3 - MOIST:** Soil is brown in color, strongly squeezing the soil will extract a few drops of water, and trays are light with no visible bend.

**Common pests:** Aphids

**Common diseases:** Botrytis, Powdery Mildew, Rust

## Scheduling

Size	Crop Time			Plants Per Pot
	Bulk	Vern.	Finish	
1.0 quart (4.5 to 5 inch)	5–6 weeks	9–12 weeks	6–7 weeks	1–2 ppp
1.25 to 2.5 quart (5.5 to 6.5 inch, tradegallon)	6–7 weeks	9–12 weeks	6–7 weeks	2–3 ppp

Estimated finish crop time is from transplant of a 288-cell tray and finished at an average daily temperature (ADT) of 65 °F (18 °C).

## Example crop schedule for a 1.0 quart

Weeks From Transplant	Description
1 week	Transplant 1 ppp just above soil level. Bulk the pots at 65° F (18 °C) ADT for 5 weeks
5 weeks	Complete bulking when the plants are within 1" from the edge of the container. Then drop the temperatures to 35–45° F (2–7 °C) to start the vernalization process
14 weeks	Start to raise the temperatures to 65–75° F (18–24 °C) day and 55–65 °F ( 13–18 °C) night
20 weeks	Finish



Lofty™ Dark Rose Shades