



KEYS TO FINISHING YOUR TREASURE TROVE SCHIZANTHUS



1. TEMPERATURE

- Schizanthus do best when grown at cool temps, which make it a great energy-saving crop. Crop conditions for Schizanthus are comparable to Primula, Calceolaria, and Cineraria.
- After initial potting keep temperatures at 60 – 63 F for several days to encourage root growth. Then drop temperatures to 50 – 60 F

2. LIGHTING

- Schizanthus should be grown in full sunlight.
- The brightest possible location along with cool temperatures will produce the best finish crops.
- Long days are required for flower initiation – once day length exceeds 12 hours plants will initiate flowers.
- Flowers typically appear 5 weeks after 12 hour days begin
- Plants will be in full bloom approximately 1-2 weeks after flowers appear

3. WATERING

- Schizanthus prefer moist, but not wet, conditions
- Over watering and over feeding will create a large, soft, leafy plant that is prone to Botrytis and soft rots
- Drying out or wilting of Schizanthus is damaging to the overall plant health. This can cause leaf burn, foliage loss. If plants are continuously dry they will be stunted and have yellow lower foliage

4. NUTRITION

- Begin feeding 1-2 weeks after transplanting
- An every-other watering schedule is recommended using 200 ppm Nitrogen
- Maintain a pH between 5.8 - 6.2
- Maintain an EC between 0.5 - 0.8. Do not exceed an EC of 1.0
- If plants are continuously grown with too little feed, lower leaves will yellow and can not be “greened” back up

5. GROWTH REGULATORS

- Growth regulators are generally not needed if grown cool. Plants have a compact and horizontal branching habit. Bushy habit can be enhanced by using a negative DIF.
- Monitoring soil moisture levels is also an effective natural growth regulator

6. SCHEDULING

- Plants should be timed to finish Valentines Day through Mothers Day
- Recommended finish sizes: 4" – 6"
- 1 plant per pot is recommended. Pots planted at 1 per finish quicker and just as nicely as pots planted 3 per.
- For early production of 5" – 6" pots, plants should be bulked in the finished container under short days (for 1-2 weeks) then day length can be extended to 14 hours/day until flowering begins
- With 4" – 5" pots day length extension can begin when the growing temperature is lowered to 50 – 60 F
- For crops planted at the beginning of 12 hour days and after no short days
- Crop times for finishing before 12 hour day length begins:
 - 4" – 7 weeks
 - 5" – 8 weeks
 - 6" – 9 weeks
- Crop time after 12 hour days begin is 4 – 6 weeks
- Flowering can be delayed in late season, to promote more bulk, by applying 1 application of Florel at 250 ppm at 7-10 days after planting.