

TECHNICAL GUIDE

Geranium sanguineum Vision®

Usage

A good ground covering plant for rock garden, dry stone walls, extensive roof planting, attractive plants for bees, pot and container plants

Sow time

April-May for green pots, June-August for flowering in pots the following year

Sowing method

3-5 seeds per plug, can be sown directly in final pot

Germination

10-14 days at 65-75°F (18-25 °C). Cover seed after sowing.

Growing on

Transplant plugs after 3-5 weeks. Grow on at 60-65 °F (15-18 °C) in a moist humus, medium. Vernalization is required for flowering.

Media

Use a well-drained, growing substrate with 0-15 % clay, 0-15 % parts (e.g. bark, perlite, sand), 1-2 kg/m³ complete balanced fertilizer, 0-2 kg/m³ slow release fertilizer (3-9 months), iron-chelate, micronutrients, pH: 5.5-7.5.

Temperature

Grow at 12-20 °C or outdoors. In winter indoors frost free at 3-5 °C or outdoors. Outdoor fleece cover needed. In spring the plants start to grow for 6-8 weeks at 16-20 °C during daytime and at 14-18°C during night. Cold temperatures at 12-15 °C will increase the cultivation time. A chilling period (vernalization) for flower initiation is required for a minimum of 15 weeks.

Fertilization

Low-moderate fertilization levels are required. Fertilize the crop weekly with 80-100 ppm nitrogen (at 2 kg/m³ slow release fertilizer in substrate), using complete balanced fertilizer. Avoid high ammonium and high nitrogen levels. Very high nitrogen levels in substrate cause shoot stretching and the shoots fall apart. Don't fertilize after mid September. In spring fertilize 80-100 ppm nitrogen of a complete balanced fertilizer. Prevent magnesium deficiency by applying magnesium sulphate (0,05 %) 1-2 times and in case of iron deficiency (above pH 6.0) apply iron-chelate for 1-2 times.

Stage I Starts with the radicle breaking through the testa. The roots are touching the medium. Ends with fully developed cotyledons.

Stage II Starts from fully developed cotyledons. Ends with the fully developed true leaf or true leaf pair.

Stage III Starts from the fully developed true leaf or true leaf pair and ends with 80% of the young plants being marketable.

Stage IV All young plants are ready for sale and in the process of being hardened off. This stage lasts about 7 days.

The cultural recommendations are based on results from trials conducted under Central European conditions. Different conditions in other parts of the world may lead to deviations in results achieved.