



Osteospermum-Ostica™ - Culture Description



FAMILY: Asteracea / Compositae

ORIGIN: South Africa, Cape Region

SEASON: Spring

USDA HARDINESS: 9-11

ROOTING: Allow 2-3 weeks for cuttings to root at temperatures of 64-75°F (18-24°C)

PLANTING: For 4" (10 cm) pot, use 1 plant per pot. Ready for sales (from rooted cutting) within 8-10 weeks. For 6" (15 cm) pot, use 1-2 plants per pot. Ready in 10-12 weeks. When grown as 10" (25 cm) hanging baskets or pots, use 3 - 4 plants. Ready in 12-14 weeks.

PINCHING: Optional. Pinch early 1-2 weeks after transplant.

LIGHT INTENSITY: Full sun to partial shade (min. 5,000 fc / 50,000 LUX).

TEMPERATURE: Day: 64-75°F (18-24°C). Cool night: 45-55°F (7-13°C). Osteospermum blooms in response to night temperatures of less than 55°F (13°C). The vernalization period takes about 4 weeks under temperatures of 45-55°F (7-13°C), giving a good bud set and the best flowering potential possible. Flowering grows less in warm summer months. Blooms again in fall, in reaction to cold night temperatures.

FERTILIZATION: Constant feed, with a balanced fertilizer (250 ppm N) that contains average levels of micronutrients with a slightly increased level of iron.

IRRIGATION: Maintain moderate levels of moisture.

MEDIUM: Well-drained, disease-free potting mix. Peat/Perlite mix. pH: 5.5-6.3.
EC 0.6 - 0.9.

GROWTH REGULATORS: May be applied on plants in smaller pots in order to limit their growth. Optional. Not necessary under high light intensities. 1-3 sprays of ALAR (B-Nine) 2 gr/L according to required plant size.

DISEASES & PEST CONTROL: Insects: White Flies, Thrips and Leaf Miners. Spray preventively. Diseases: Botrytis, Pythium. Use a broad-spectrum fungicide at time of liner planting.

The cultural instructions presented here should be regarded as general guide lines. It is advised to make necessary adjustments when growing in different climatic conditions and agricultural practices. Danziger – "Dan" Flower Farm is not responsible for any damage caused by implementation of the recommendations.

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