



Shoeshine Rose Bergenia

# Shoeshine Bergenia

## Culture Guide

### *Bergenia cordifolia*

Vibrant rose flowers emerge over glossy bronze foliage in the spring on this hardy perennial perfect for shady landscaped areas.

**Minimum seed germination standard:** 60%

**Product form(s):** Raw

**Habit:** Mounded

**Container size:** Quarts, gallons

**Blooming season:** Early spring

**Vernalization:** Not required, but cool nights less than 50 °F (10 °C) will increase uniformity and quality of flowering.

### Garden Specifications

**Garden height:** 8–10"

**Garden width:** 10–12"

**Light:** Shade to partial shade

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 3–8

**AHS Heat zone:** 8–1

**Product use:** Landscape beds, mass plantings

### Germination

**Germination time:** 4–8 days

**Media temperature:** 70–75 °F (21–24 °C)

**Chamber:** Optional

**Light:** Required for germination

**Seed cover:** None

**Moisture Level:** 4 (wet) day 1–8

**Recommended tray size:** 288-cell tray

**Seeds per cell:** 1–2

### Young Plant Production

#### TEMPERATURE:

**Day:** 62–65 °F (17–18 °C)

**Night:** 62–65 °F (17–18 °C)

#### LIGHTING:

**Recommended day length:** Natural day lengths

**Light intensity:** 2,000–3,000 foot candles  
(400–600 micro mols)

**Day length response:** Day neutral

**Daily light integral:** Greater than 10 mols/day

**Media pH:** 5.4– 5.8

**Media EC:** 0.25–0.5 mS/cm

**Fertilizer:** 50 ppm Nitrogen

**Pinching:** No

**Moisture level:** Alternate between a level 4 (wet) and level 3 (medium) from radicle emergence until cotyledon expansion, then allow soil to dry back to a level 2 (medium).

**Plant growth regulators (PGRs):** Generally not needed

**Plug grow time:** 6–7 weeks in a 288-cell size tray

**Tech Tips:** Keep fertilizer levels low during plug production because young plants are sensitive to high media salts. Target media EC should be 0.25–0.50 mS/cm.



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## Finishing

### TEMPERATURE:

**Day:** 60–70 °F (16–21 °C)

**Night:** 50–60 °F (10–16 °C)

**Average daily temperature:** 60–65 °F (16–18 °C)

### LIGHTING:

**Recommended day length:** Natural day lengths

**Light intensity:** Greater than 4,500 foot candles (900 micro mols)

**Day length response:** Day neutral

**Daily light integral:** Greater than 13 mols/day

**Vernalization:** Not required, but cool nights less than 50 °F (10 °C) will increase uniformity and quality of flowering.

**Media pH:** 5.4–6.0

**Media EC:** 0.5–1.0 mS/cm

**Fertilizer:** 100–125 ppm Nitrogen

**Pinching:** No

**Moisture level:** Alternate between a level 4 (wet) and level 2 (medium). Allow soil to dry to a level 2 (medium) before irrigating up to a level 4 (wet).

**Plant growth regulators:** Generally not required

**Pests:** Foliar nematodes

**Diseases:** Fungal leaf spots



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## Scheduling

Container size	Crop time after transplant (wks)	Plants per pot
1-quart pots (4.5- to 5-inch pots)	20–24	2
1.25- to 2.5-quart pots (5.5- to 6.5-inch pots, trade gallon)	20–24	3
3-quart to 2-gallon pots (7.5- to 10-inch pots)	20–24	4–5

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).

**Tech tips:** Use multiple plants per container to increase flower count as each plant will only produce one flower spike in the first year of production.

### EXAMPLE CROP SCHEDULE FOR 2.5-QUART POTS

**Week 1:** Sow 1–2 seeds per cell into a 288-cell tray; no covering; germinate at 68 °F (20 °C) ADT.

**Week 2:** Reduce temperatures to 62–65 °F (17–18 °C) once germination is complete.

**Week 6:** Transplant three plants into finished container.

**Week 7:** Bulk plants prior to cooling period for 5–6 weeks.

**Week 11:** Allow 10–12 weeks at 40–50 °F (4–10 °C) for optimum flowering and plant quality.

**Week 21:** Increase temperature to 60–65 °F (16–18 °C) ADT to force flowering.

**Week 26–30:** Finish

syngenta flowers

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