Landscaper™ Red

syngenta flowers

Geranium Landscaper™
Culture Guide

Botanical name: *Pelargonium × hortorum*
Product form: Seed
Containers: Pints, Quarts, Gallons, Hanging Baskets
Habit: Upright

Garden Specifications

Garden Height: 12–16" (30–40 cm) tall
Garden Width: 12–14" (30–35 cm) wide
Exposure: Full sun
USDA zone: 11
AHS zone: 12–1
Product use: Containers, Hanging Baskets, Landscapes, Patio Pots, Combos

Germination

Stages 1 & 2
Germination time: 1–3 days
Media temp: 73 °F (23 °C)
Chamber: Optional
Light: Not required for germination
Seed cover: Yes
Moisture level: 5 - SATURATED: Soil is dark brown and shiny, free water is present at the surface of the soil, water drips freely from the bottom of the tray, and trays are heavy with a visible bend in the middle.
Rec. tray size: 288-cell tray
Seeds per cell: 1

Young Plant Production

Stages 3 & 4
Temperature
Day: 70–72 °F (21–22 °C)
Night: 64–66 °F (18–19 °C)
Average daily temperature: 68 °F (20 °C)
Lighting
Day extension lighting: Not necessary
Light intensity: 2,000–3,000 foot candles (400–600 micro mols)
Day length response: Day neutral
Daily light integral: 12–14 mols/day
Media pH: 6.1–6.5
Media EC: SME EC: 0.9–1.3 mS/cm
Fertilizer: 75–125 ppm N
Moisture level: Media should be allowed to dry between irrigations. Alternate between moisture level 3 and 4.
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.
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.
Pinching: No
Plant growth regulators (PGRs): Geraniums are irradiance plants; the more light they receive, the faster they will flower. Under short days or cloudy conditions, it is beneficial to provide supplemental lighting of around 400 foot candles (4,000 lux), especially in the plug tray to speed up flowering. All geraniums are especially sensitive to bacterial diseases, so be sure to start with clean plug trays, media and propagation areas. Geranium seed does not carry bacterial diseases, so if you start clean you can stay clean. Do not subirrigate or use recycled water. Media pH should not drop below 6.0, or the plants may suffer from iron and/or manganese toxicity.
Plug grow time: 4–5 weeks in a 288-cell tray
Comments: Geraniums are irradiance plants; the more light they receive, the faster they will flower. Under short days or cloudy conditions, it is beneficial to provide supplemental lighting of around 400 foot candles (4,000 lux), especially in the plug tray to speed up flowering. All geraniums are especially sensitive to bacterial diseases, so be sure to start with clean plug trays, media and propagation areas. Geranium seed does not carry bacterial diseases, so if you start clean you can stay clean. Do not subirrigate or use recycled water. Media pH should not drop below 6.0, or the plants may suffer from iron and/or manganese toxicity.

Finishing

Temperature
Day: 70–72 °F (21–22 °C)
Night: 60–62 °F (16–17 °C)
Average daily temperature: 65–66 °F (18–19 °C)

Lighting

Day extension lighting: Not necessary

Light intensity: 6,000–8,000 foot candles

Day length response: Day neutral

Daily light integral: 16–18 mols/day

Transplanting: Transplant directly into the finished container. Place the rooting media slightly below the level of media in the container. Make sure the root ball is covered and that the plug is situated in the center of the pot. Be careful not to damage roots when transplanting since damaged roots increase the likelihood of Pythium infections.

Media pH: 6.1–6.5

Media EC: SME EC: 1.5–2.1 mS/cm, PourThru EC: 2.3–3.2 mS/cm

Fertilizer: 200–250 ppm N

Pinching: No. Pinching is not recommended or needed.

Plant growth regulators (PGRs): A total of 3–5 sprays of Cycocel® at 750 ppm will help control growth and speed flowering. Do not apply more than 750 ppm Cycocel® or leaf edge yellowing may occur. Using a spray adjuvant such as CapSil® will reduce the chance of leaf edge yellowing. Spray every 10 days to two weeks, depending on environmental conditions and plant growth. Stop applying Cycocel® when flower buds are visible. Late Cycocel® sprays can result in small and/or malformed flowers.

Tech tip: Geraniums are irradiance plants; the more light they receive, the faster they will flower. Under short days or cloudy conditions, it is beneficial to provide supplemental lighting of around 400 foot candles (4,000 lux) to speed up flowering. All geraniums are especially sensitive to bacterial diseases, so be sure to start with clean containers, media and growing areas. Do not subirrigate or use recycled water. Do not grow a hanging Geranium crop over another Geranium crop. Media pH should not drop below 6.0, or the plants may suffer from iron and/or manganese toxicity. Avoid the use of ammonium-based fertilizers to help maintain proper media pH. Instead, use nitrate-based Cal-Mag® Plus fertilizers for the entire growth cycle of Geraniums. Keeping media saturated will promote Pythium root rot infections. Proper air circulation is critical at the time of flowering to reduce the likelihood of Botrytis flower petal blight.

CHRYSAL ALESCO® 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 4.

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

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.

Common pests: Thrips, Aphids

Common diseases: Botrytis, Pythium, Alternaria, Rust, Bacterial root and leaf diseases

Scheduling

Size	Crop Time	Plants Per Pot
1.0 pint (4 inch)	11–12 weeks	1 ppp
1.0 quart (4.5 to 5 inch)	11–12 weeks	1 ppp
1.25 to 2.5 quart (5.5 to 6.5 inch, trade gallon)	12–13 weeks	1 ppp
3.0 quart to 2.0 gallon (7.5 to 10 inch)	12–13 weeks	3–5 ppp
1.5 gallon hanging basket (10 inch basket)	12–13 weeks	3–5 ppp
2.0 gallon hanging basket (12 inch basket)	12–13 weeks	5–6 ppp

Estimated finish crop time is from transplant of a 288-cell tray and finished at an average daily temperature (ADT) of 66 °F (19 °C).

Example crop schedule for a 1.0 quart

Weeks From Transplant	Description
1 week	Drench media with preventative fungicide to help prevent Pythium
3 weeks	Spray with Cycocel® at 750 ppm
5 weeks	Spray with Cycocel® at 750 ppm
7 weeks	Spray with Cycocel® at 750 ppm
11 weeks	Ready to ship

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