



Reach Out™ Pink

syngenta®flowers

# Geranium Ivy Reach Out™

## Culture Guide

**Botanical name:** *Pelargonium peltatum*

**Product form:** Seed

**Containers:** Pints, Quarts, Gallons, Hanging Baskets

**Habit:** Semi-Trailing

### Garden Specifications

**Garden Height:** 6–8" (15–20 cm) tall

**Garden Width:** 10–14" (25–35 cm) wide

**Exposure:** Full sun

**USDA zone:** 11

**AHS zone:** 12–1

**Product use:** Containers, Hanging Baskets, Patio Pots, Combos

### Germination

Stages 1 & 2

**Germination time:** 4 days

**Media temp:** 64–68 °F (18–20 °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:** 64–66 °F (18–19 °C)

**Night:** 64–66 °F (18–19 °C)

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

#### **Lighting**

**Day extension lighting:** Not necessary

**Light intensity:** 3,000–3,500 foot candles (600–700 micro mols)

**Day length response:** Day neutral

**Daily light integral:** 8–10 mols/day

**Media pH:** 5.8–6.2

**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):** Reach Out ivy geraniums are naturally compact and self-branching, thus require lower rates of PGRs than zonal geraniums. Spray one time with Cycocel® at 300 ppm when 3–5 leaves are present (around 3 weeks after sowing). 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.

**Plug grow time:** 5–6 weeks in a 288-cell tray

**Comments:** Germination temperatures above 72 °F (22 °C) can lead to thermodormancy, which will reduce and/or slow germination. 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; if you start clean, you can stay clean. Do not subirrigate or use recycled water.

### Finishing

#### **Temperature**

**Day:** 66–68 °F (19–20 °C)

**Night:** 60–62 °F (16–17 °C)

**Average daily temperature:** 64 °F (18 °C)

#### **Lighting**

**Day extension lighting:** Not necessary

**Light intensity:** 4,000–6,000 foot candles

**Day length response:** Day neutral

**Daily light integral:** 12–14 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:** 5.8–6.2

**Media EC:** SME EC: 0.9–1.3 mS/cm, PourThru EC: 1.4–2.0 mS/cm

**Fertilizer:** 125–175 ppm N

**Pinching:** No. Pinching is not recommended or needed.

**Plant growth regulators (PGRs):** If necessary, sprays of Cycocel® at 300–500 ppm will help control growth. 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. Do not apply Cycocel® when flower buds are visible. Late Cycocel® sprays can result in small and/or malformed flowers.

**Tech tip:** Ivy 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, be sure to start with clean containers, media and growing areas. Do not subirrigate or use recycled water, and do not grow a hanging geranium crop over another geranium crop. 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.



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**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:** Fungus Gnats, Shore flies, Thrips

**Common diseases:** Botrytis, Rhizoctonia, Pythium, Thielaviopsis, Bacterial root and leaf diseases

## Scheduling

Size	Crop Time	Plants Per Pot
1.0 pint (4 inch)	8–9 weeks	1 ppp
1.0 quart (4.5 to 5 inch)	9–10 weeks	1 ppp
1.25 to 2.5 quart (5.5 to 6.5 inch, trade gallon)	9–10 weeks	2–3 ppp
1.5 gallon hanging basket (10 inch basket)	10–12 weeks	3–5 ppp
2.0 gallon hanging basket (12 inch basket)	10–12 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 1.5 gallon hanging basket

Weeks From Transplant	Description
1 week	Drench media with preventative fungicide to help prevent Pythium
3 weeks	If needed, spray with Cycocel® at 300–500 ppm
5 weeks	If needed, spray with Cycocel® at 300–500 ppm
7 weeks	If needed, spray with Cycocel® at 300–500 ppm
11 weeks	Ready to ship



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SFL 2240A 01-2020