

Iberis Whistler™



Culture Guide

Botanical name: *Iberis sempervirens*

Product form: Seed

Containers: Quarts, Gallons

Habit: Mounding

Vernalization: Required

Garden Specifications

Garden Height: 8–10" (20–25 cm) tall

Garden Width: 4–8" (10–20 cm) wide

Exposure: Part Shade–Full Sun

USDA zone: 3–9

AHS zone: 9–3

Product use: Containers

Germination

Stages 1 & 2

Germination time: 4–7 days

Media temp: 60–65 °F (15–18 °C)

Chamber: Optional

Light: Not required for germination

Seed cover: Yes

Moisture level: 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.

Rec. tray size: 288-cell tray

Seeds per cell: 3–4

Young Plant Production

Stages 3 & 4

Temperature

Day: 62–64 °F (17–18 °C)

Night: 60–62 °F (16–17 °C)

Average daily temperature: 63 °F (17 °C)

Lighting

Day extension lighting: Not necessary

Light intensity: 200–250 $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$) for the first two weeks after sowing or until root development occurs. Light levels can be increased up to 600 $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ as rooting increases and the seedling matures.

Day length response: Day neutral

Daily light integral: 12–14 $\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{d}^{-1}$

Media pH: 5.5–5.9

Media EC: SME 0.5 to 0.75 mS/cm



Fertilizer: 50–75 ppm N

Moisture level: Media should be allowed to dry between irrigations. Alternate between moisture level 2 and 3.

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

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.

Pinching: No

Plant growth regulators (PGRs): None needed as long as the correct temperatures are maintained.

Plug grow time: 7–8 weeks in a 288-cell tray

Bulking and Vernalization

Vernalization: Required

Bulking

Bulking Time: See Scheduling Section

Temperature: 64–66 °F (18–19 °C)

Pinch: Yes

PGR: Not necessary

Vernalization

Vernalization Time: 8–10 weeks

Temperature: 35–45 °F (2–7 °C)

Tech tip: Pinch at transplant in the fall to ensure pot fill prior to vernalization period.

Finishing

Temperature

Day: 64–66 °F (18–19 °C)

Night: 56–58 °F (13–14 °C)

Average daily temperature: 63 °F (17 °C)

Lighting

Day extension lighting: Not necessary

Light intensity: 800–1,200 $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$

Day length response: Day neutral

Daily light integral: 14–16 $\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{d}^{-1}$

Transplanting: Transplant directly into the finished container. Place the rooting media slightly above the level of media in the container. Make sure that the root ball is covered and that the plug is situated in the center of the pot.

Media pH: 5.8–6.2

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

Fertilizer: 75–125 ppm N

Pinching: Yes, 1 pinch is recommended either in propagation or 7–10 days after transplant.

Plant growth regulators (PGRs): If necessary, sprays of B-Nine® WSG at 2,500 ppm can be used. Also an alternative, sprays of Bonzi® at 15 ppm may be applied.



Try Chrysal Alesco®, a postharvest foliar spray, to protect ethylene sensitive crops during shipping and retail.

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

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.

Common pests: Aphids

Common diseases: Botrytis, Powdery Mildew

Scheduling

Size	Crop Time			Plants Per Pot
	Bulk	Vern.	Finish	
1.0 quart (4.5 to 5 inch)	7–8 weeks	8–10 weeks	5–6 weeks	1–2 ppp
1.25 to 2.5 quart (5.5 to 6.5 inch, trade gallon)	8–10 weeks	8–10 weeks	5–6 weeks	2–3 ppp

Estimated finish crop time is from transplant of a 288-cell tray and finished at an average daily temperature (ADT) of 63 °F (17 °C).

Example crop schedule for a 1.0 quart

Weeks From Transplant	Description
1 week	Pinch the plugs prior to transplanting 2–3 ppp
2 weeks	Continue to bulk the containers at 60–70 °F (16–21 °C) for 8 weeks
9 weeks	Vernalize at 35–45 °F (2–7 °C) for 8–10 weeks. Monitor your EC and make sure it does not drop below an SME of 1.25 to prevent lower leaf yellowing
18 weeks	Raise temperatures to 60–65 °F (16–18 °C) ADT to force flowering in approximately 5–7 weeks
20 weeks	If needed, spray of an application of Bonzi® at 15 ppm
23 weeks	Finish



Whistler™ White