

# syngenta flowers

# Vinca Cora® Cascade

## Culture Guide

Botanical name: Catharanthus roseus

Product form: Seed

Containers: Gallons, Hanging Baskets

**Habit:** Trailing/Spreading

Garden Specifications

**Garden Height:** 6–8" (15–20 cm) tall **Garden Width:** 32–36" (81–91 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:** 7–8 days **Media temp:** 76–78 °F (24–25 °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

Stage 3 & 4 **Temperature** 

**Day:** 74–76 °F (23–24 °C) **Night:** 74–76 °F (23–24 °C)

Average daily temperature: 74-76 °F (23-24 °C)

Lighting

Day extension lighting: Not necessary

**Light intensity:** 2,000–3,000 foot candles (400–500

micro mols)

**Day length response:** Day neutral **Daily light integral:** 14–16 mols/day

**Media pH:** 5.5-5.9

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

isible 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):** Usually not needed in propagation; under low light levels B-Nine® WSG may be sprayed at 1,500–2,500 ppm. Do not use Bonzi® to avoid potential phytotoxicity.

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

**Comments:** Soil temperatures lower than 75 °F (23 °C) during germination may decrease germination rates. Keeping media pH at 5.8 or lower will help reduce the likelihood of Thielaviopsis infections.

### Finishing

#### **Temperature**

**Day:** 76–78 °F (24–26 °C) **Night:** 64–66 °F (18–19 °C)

Average daily temperature: 70 °F (21 °C)

Lighting

**Day extension lighting:** Not necessary **Light intensity:** 6,000–8,000 foot candles

Day length response: Day neutral

Daily light integral: Greater than 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 that the root ball is covered and that the cutting is situated in the center of the pot.

**Media pH:** 5.5–5.9

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

mS/cm

Fertilizer: 125-175 ppm N

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

Plant growth regulators (PGRs): If needed sprays of B-Nine® WSG at 2,500–5,000 ppm or A-Rest® at 2–4 ppm may be applied.

**Tech tip:** Start with a disinfected growing area and keep media pH below 5.8 to help avoid Thielaviopsis infections. Cora Cascade's disease resistance is targeted to aerial Phytophthera which is a serious landscape disease in southern climates. It may have higher resistance to other diseases but is still susceptible to Thielaviopsis. Control Thrips to prevent INSV or TSWV infections. Do not try to finish Vinca early in the North since the plants need high light and warm temperatures to grow adequately. PGRs are usually not required except in pack production. Never apply Bonzi® to Vinca since leaf spotting may occur.



CHRYSAL 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, Fungus gnats, Shore flies

**Common diseases:** Thielaviopsis, Rhizopus, Rhizoctonia, Pythium,

Tospovirus (INSV and TSWV)

### Scheduling

Size	Crop Time	Plants Per Pot
1.25 to 2.5 quart (5.5 to 6.5 inch, trade gallon)	8–9 weeks	2–3 ppp
1.5 gallon hanging basket (10 inch basket)	10-11 weeks	3–5 ppp
2.0 gallon hanging basket (12 inch basket)	12-13 weeks	4–6 ppp

Estimated finish crop time is from transplant of a 288-cell tray and finished at an average daily temperature (ADT) of 70 °F (21 °C).

### Example crop schedule for a 1.5 gallon

Weeks From Transplant	Description
1 week	Apply preventative fungicide drench for Thielaviopsis and Pythium
2 weeks	Start Thrips monitoring program
5 weeks	Apply plant growth regulators (PGRs) if necessary
8 weeks	Apply plant growth regulators (PGRs) if necessary



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