

# Aubrieta Audrey™

## Culture Guide

syngenta® flowers

**Botanical name:** *Aubrieta hybrida*

**Product form:** Seed

**Containers:** Quarts, Gallons

**Habit:** Mounded

**Vernalization:** Required

### Garden Specifications

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

**Garden Width:** 6–8" (15–20 cm) wide

**Exposure:** Full sun

**USDA zone:** 6–9

**AHS zone:** 9–6

**Product use:** Containers, Landscapes, Combos

### Germination

Stages 1 & 2

**Germination time:** 8–14 days

**Media temp:** 64–68 °F (18–20 °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:** 2–3

### Young Plant Production

Stage 3 & 4

#### **Temperature**

**Day:** 62–64 °F (17–18 °C)

**Night:** 58–60 °F (14–16 °C)

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

#### **Lighting**

**Day extension lighting:** Not necessary

**Light intensity:** 1,000–1,200 foot candles (200–250 micro mols) for the first two weeks after sowing or until true leaf development occurs. Light levels can be increased up to 3,000 foot candles (600 micro mols) as rooting increases and the seedling matures.

**Day length response:** Day neutral

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

**Media pH:** 5.8–6.2



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**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):** B-Nine® WSG spray at 1,500–2,500 ppm, or Cycocel® spray at 500–750 ppm can be used if necessary to tone plugs.

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

**Comments:** Keep evenly moist and don't allow to dry out completely. Although germination is about 65–70%, it is best seeded with 2 seeds/plug to maintain even developing plants. Too many seeds per plug results in uneven finished pots.

### Bulking and Vernalization

**Vernalization:** Required

#### **Bulking**

**Bulking Time:** See Scheduling Section

**Temperature:** 64–66 °F (18–19 °C)

**Pinch:** No

**PGR:** Not Necessary

#### **Vernalization**

**Vernalization Time:** 6–10 weeks

**Temperature:** 40 °F (4 °C) to 50 °F (10 °C)

**Tech tip:** Before vernalization, plants should be well rooted and the foliage should fill ½ to ⅓ of the overall pot diameter. Keep fertility on the low side, going into vernalization to avoid excess soft growth. This decreases the chance of disease and allows room for growth during finishing.

### Finishing

#### Temperature

**Day:** 66–68 °F (19–20 °C)

**Night:** 58–60 °F (14–16 °C)

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

#### Lighting

**Day extension lighting:** Not necessary

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

**Day length response:** Day neutral

**Daily light integral:** 14–16 mols/day

**Transplanting:** Transplant directly into the finished container. Place the rooting media slightly above 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.

**Media pH:** 5.5–5.9

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

**Fertilizer:** 75–125 ppm N

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

**Plant growth regulators (PGRs):** If required, apply B-Nine® WSG spray at 2,500–3,750 ppm, or Cycocel® spray at 500–1,000 ppm.

**Tech tip:** When applicable, grow cool to keep the plants compact and uniform.



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 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.

**Common pests:** Aphids

**Common diseases:** Botrytis, Pythium, Rhizoctonia

### Scheduling

Size	Crop Time			Plants Per Pot
	Bulk	Vern.	Finish	
1.0 quart (4.5 to 5 inch)	5–6 weeks	6–10 weeks	14–18 weeks	1–2 ppp
1.25 to 2.5 quart (5.5 to 6.5 inch, trade gallon)	6–7 weeks	6–10 weeks	14–18 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 64 °F (18 °C).

### Example crop schedule for a 2.5 quart

Weeks From Transplant	Description
1 week	Transplant two plugs into the center of the pot
6 weeks	With bulking complete, start to lower temperatures and begin the vernalization process
12 weeks	With vernalization complete, start to raise the temperatures to 64 °F (18 °C) ADT to start to forcing flowers
22 weeks	If needed, apply plant growth regulators (PGRs) to help control size
26 weeks	Finish

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