

Cultural recommendation

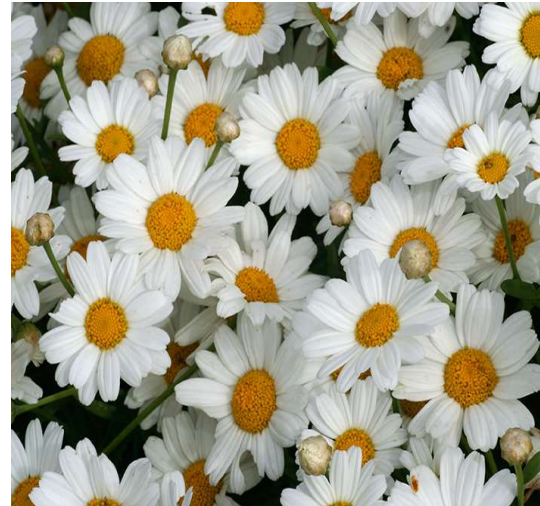
Argyranthemum

Description

Name: Argyranthemum frutescens

Family: Asteraceae

Series: LaRita®, LaVilletta®



Product use

Use: Bedding plant for spring

Exposure: Full sun

Technical recommendations

Potting and Spacing:

Recommended pot size	Spacing plants/m ²
10,5	25-30
12	18-20
14	16
17	6-7

Pot size cm	Winter crop (potting period)	Spring crop (potting period)
10,5 to 14	October-November	January-February
>14	September-October	

Substrate: Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium with a good structure and pH 5.5-6.2.

Fertilizer: Start feeding when first roots become visible. Use a complete balanced fertilizer 2-1-2 NPK + microelements at 1-1,5 gr/l in every watering. For spring crop production use a lower N balance like 1-0,5-1,5 NPK. At the end of the crop increase the K levels and switch to a balance :1-1-3 NPK. Supplemental feeding with additional iron will help to prevent iron deficiency.

Temperature: First 2 weeks keep night temperature at 16-18°C (63-64°F) until the crop is well established. Then, the temperature could decrease gradually down to 12-14°C (54-57°F) at night. Keep day temperatures between 16-20°C (63-68°F). If grown under cold greenhouse conditions, the minimum temperature is frost free 3- 5°C (37-41°F). For outdoor production the crop has to be protected from frost. For fastest flowering during short daylength, maintain night temperatures 14°C to 16°C (63-68°F). Excessively warm temperatures can cause stretch and poor plant quality.

Watering: Media should be allowed to moderately dry between irrigations to prevent diseases and promote stronger growth. However, avoid drying out to prevent yellow leaves.

Light levels: High light needed. Keep light intensities > 50 Klux. Low light levels promote stem stretch and reduced plant quality. Flowering is better and earlier under long days.

Pinch: A pinch should be done 1- 2 weeks after potting. Pinch is also recommended under low light growing conditions to avoid early stretch. Pinching will delay the crop approximately 12 to 15 days. For big pot size > 17 cm under winter south EU growing conditions, two pinch are recommended for LaVilletta® varieties. If needed a third trimming is recommended to give a mounding shape.

Technical recommendations

Growth Control: Using the “Cool morning pulse” at the end of the crop to reduce the greenhouse temperature to 5-6°C (41-43°F) for 2- 3 hours at dawn. This approach will help to reduce plant height and keep compact plants. If grown cool, little chemical growth regulators are needed during production.

Argyranthemum is responsive to Daminozide (Dazide/Alar/B-nine) and Paclobutrazol (Bonzi). For vigorous varieties (LaVilletta®) in large formats with two pinch, it is advisable to make 2-4 PGR’s applications (Bonzi) to maintain a regular and a compact shape of the finished plant. Providing cool temperatures and high light conditions will help keep the plants more compact. Application should stop once flower buds appear in order to avoid delay flowering (1-2 weeks) and reduce flower size. These recommendations for plant growth regulators should be used only as general guidelines. Growers must trial all PGR under their conditions and follow the registration uses of each chemical in their country.

Pest and diseases:

Argyranthemum is sensitive to various pest. Aphids, thrips and leaf miners and spider mites are the most common pest. Start with clean material a well disinfected facilities together with a proper pest management program using different control strategies: exclusion, monitoring, biological and chemical control, are the best tools to control these pests.

Argyranthemum is also sensitive to some diseases like, Rhizoctonia, Pythium, Botrytis and several viruses. Disease management should be addressed by sanitation strategies, environmental conditions control, biological and chemical control.

For the chemical control, follow the registration uses of each product in each country.

Crop schedule * 10,5 cm pot – LaRita®

Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Spring crop**	P	Pi						F	F				
Winter crop**	P	Pi										F	F

P: Potting. Pi: pinch F: Finish plant

** Spring crop: potting dates from January-March. **Winter crop: potting dates from November-December

Crop schedule * 12 cm pot – LaRita®

Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Spring crop**	P	Pi							F	F				
Winter crop**	P	Pi											F	F

P: Potting. Pi: pinch F: Finish plant

** Spring crop: potting dates from January-March. **Winter crop: potting dates from October-November

Cultural recommendation

Crop schedule * 14 cm pot – LaRita[®] & LaVilletta[®]

Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Spring crop*	P	Pi								F	F				
Winter crop**	P	Pi												F	F

P: Potting. Pi: pinch F: Finish plant

*Spring crop: potting dates from January-March.

**Winter crop: potting dates from October- November (South EU)

Crop schedule >17 cm pot (South EU) – LaRita[®] & LaVilletta[®]

Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
South EU	P	Pi		Pi									Tr						F	F	F

P: Potting. Pi: pinch. Tr: optional Trimming (only if needed to give final mounding shape). F: Finish plant

- **Winter crop:** potting dates from late September to October - early November
- From February onwards the plants can be grown outdoor
- LaRita[®] will flower in average 1-2 weeks earlier than LaVilletta

NOTE: Growers should use the information presented here as guidelines only. Selecta One recommends that growers conduct a trial of products under their own conditions. Crop times will vary depending on the climate, location, time of year, and greenhouse environmental conditions. It is the responsibility of the grower to read and follow all the current label directions relating to the products. Nothing herein shall be deemed a warranty or guaranty by Selecta One of any products listed herein