

Cultural recommendation

Xerochrysum (Bracteantha)

Description

Name: Xerochrysum bracteatum (Bracteantha)
Family: Asteraceae
Series: Mohave[®]



Product use

Use: Bedding and balcony plant
Exposure: Full sun

Technical recommendations

Potting and Spacing: Recommended pot size from 12- 14 cm pot, final crop density : 22-25 plants/m². For 17cm pot, final crop density 10-12 plants/m². For bigger pots (>17 cm) use two young plants per pot

Substrate: Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium with a good structure and pH 5.8-6.2.

Fertilizer: Bracteantha is a medium feeder. Overfertilization will cause leaf-edge burning and stunted growth. Start feeding when first roots become visible. Use a balanced 1-0,5-1,5 + Ca+Mg fertilizer at 0,8-1 gr/l in every watering. Maintain an EC substrate media at 1,8- 2,2 mS/cm with saturated media extract method.

Temperature: First 2-3 weeks keep day/night temperature > 18°C. After week 3 keep temperature > 12°C. Cooler temperatures can be used to help control growth and tone the plants at the end of the crop. Higher than recommended temperatures will cause stretch, weak and soft plants. Under warm weather climates, it can be grown outdoors

Water: Media should be allowed to moderately dry between irrigations to prevent diseases and promote stronger growth. Don't let Bracteantha get extremely dry since this can cause leaf chlorosis, necrosis and burns. Watch for Botrytis on older leaves when overhead irrigating, especially under tight spacing.

Light: Keep light intensities at 50 to 80 Klux. Low light levels promote stem stretch and reduced plant quality. Bracteantha grows best under high light conditions with moderate to cool temperatures.

Pinching: Pinching is not required for Bracteantha; however, sometimes a large center bud will form on the cutting during propagation and/or the first growing stages and this can be removed to encourage lateral branching. Bracteantha should form a nice mounded plant without the need of pinching.

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Growth regulation: Bracteantha is compact-growing plant and shouldn't need any chemical growth regulation. Growing cooler will result in more compact plants. "Cool morning" strategy will help to reduce plant height and keep compact plants. PGR's: Bracteantha is responsive to Daminozide (Dazide/Alar/B-nine) if chemical growth control is absolutely needed. 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: Bracteantha is sensitive to various pest under greenhouse conditions. Whiteflies, aphids, thrips and leaf miners are the most common pest on Bracteantha. 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.

Bracteantha is also sensitive to some diseases like, Mildew, Botrytis, Pythium and Phytophthora can especially when plants are overwatered and under high humidity conditions. 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 * 12 cm pot

Spring production:

Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	P									F	F

* This is a reference time schedule that can vary depending on the variety, growing conditions and region. Schedule start from RC. South, outdoor production is possible under frost free conditions.

P: Potting. F: Finish plant

Crop schedule * 17 cm pot

Spring production:

Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	P													F	F

* This is a reference time schedule that can vary depending on the variety, growing conditions and region. Schedule start from RC. South, outdoor production is possible under frost free conditions.

P: Potting. F: Finish plant

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