# ALSTROEMERIA







## **Transplanting**

Remove 50-cell plugs carefully from trays so as not to damage roots. Do not bury plugs when transplanting. Keep soil surface of plug level with soil surface of finished pot. If buried, number of shoots may be reduced and delayed.

# **Container Sizes and Crop Times**

8-inch (20cm) = 16 weeks 10-inch (25.5cm) = 18 weeks 12-inch (30cm) = 20 weeks

# **Growing Media**

Plant into a well-drained, medium to coarse-textured growing mix. With larger pots and longer crop times, there is greater need for more perlite, pumice, coir, or bark in mix to avoid compaction and shrinkage of media.

#### **Temperature**

Ideal average daily growing temperature 55°–58°F (13°–14°C). If grown lower than 50°F (10°C) average, rhizomes can go dormant. Can be grown with warmer days if can keep soil temperature <60°F (15.5°C). Alstroemeria does not grow or flower well at temperatures >80°F (27°C), so plan on growing this crop for spring sales only, unless in Northern regions. If grown cooler than ideal, will delay flowering. If grown warmer than ideal, plants will not be as compact.

## Light

Alstroemeria likes high light levels but cool soil temperatures, as the plant is originally from the Andes mountains. Provide light levels >3000 footcandles or >5 moles per day (DLI). Lower light levels will delay flowering by 7-10 days. Avoid high leaf and soil temperatures when using high light levels. Will flower up to 2 weeks faster with longer days and more total light.

#### **Water and Feed**

Alstroemeria is a thirsty crop, so keep even moisture in containers and avoid too dry or too wet. Feed as needed with 150 - 200 ppm N from balanced fertilizers such as 15-5-15, 17-5-17, or 13-2-13, which contain calcium and magnesium. Avoid using controlled release fertilizers when growing cool, as less N available to plants at that cool temperature and salts may build up. If leaves turning more yellow, increase ppm or feed more often. Keep media pH 6.0 - 6.5 as this plant likes more alkaline conditions. Maintain media EC 2.0 - 2.5 (SME).

## **Growth Regulators – None needed**

### **Flowering**

Controlled more by photoperiod, total light, and cool temperatures. Remove old flowering stalks and leaves by pulling up quickly from the base. This technique will allow continuous flowering of plants. Do not cut them off. If needed, yank out blind shoots to improve flowering.

#### **Insects and Diseases**

Thrips, aphids, slugs and snails, fungus gnats, root rots (especially Pythium), Botrytis.

#### **Common Problems and Causes**

## Plants do not flower

- Soil temp >60°F (15.5°C)
- Short days
- Low light conditions
- Poor rhizome development

#### Poor plant vigor

- Lack of fertilizer
- Wet soil Pythium
- Too low of temperature
- Excessive thinning of shoots

# Flower bud abortion

- Low light conditions
- Low calcium levels in soil
- High air temperature
- Overwatering



Flamingo Holland cannot be liable for any loss of profit, growing result, or any other commercial damages resulting from the use of this guide. This guide is for information purposes only and are not warranted for content, accuracy, or performance overall.