

Geranium

Seed Raised Geraniums

Plant type:	Tender perennial
Uses:	Outdoor containers, garden and patio pot plants
Plant height:	Horizon: 30 – 40cm Palladium: 35 – 45cm Bulls Eye: 35 – 40cm
Sowing:	January for May colour sales. September through to November for earlier Spring sales. 20°C. Cover with an average layer of medium Vermiculite. Germination in 1 - 2 weeks.

Approximate crop timing (mid season)

Sowing to transplanting	3 weeks
Sowing to flowering	12 – 16 weeks
Seedlings to flowering	11 weeks
Ball 350 to flowering	10 – 12 weeks
Ball 230 to flowering	8 – 9 weeks
Ball 104 to flowering	6 – 8 weeks

Growing on:

Temperature	Initially 18 – 21°C day with night minimum of 17°C. This can be gradually lowered as first buds appear to 10 – 12°C. Over wintering crop should be grown on at 10°C day and 5°C minimum night.
pH	6.0
Feeding	Weekly nitrogen feeding starting 4-5 weeks after potting, increasing to twice weekly from mid April onwards. A high potash feed can be added if growth is soft or excessive. Some growers prefer to use a 3 - 4 month slow release fertiliser incorporated in the compost.
Growth regulation	Lower rates of chemical should be used initially increasing to higher rates as necessary. Application should not be carried out in strong sunlight or at temperatures below 10°C. Make sure plants have been watered before spray application to avoid scorching. Earlier flowering, better basal branching, height control and more distinct zoning are benefits from growth regulation.

Ball Colegrave cultural information is issued as a guide to growers, based on our own trials experience. It is not intended as a blueprint for growing. Any chemicals referred to should be used only in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Culture Information

Pack/Pot size	9cm – 11cm pots. Double six packs. 1 litre pots for late season Summer “Patio Boosters”.
Planting out spacing	20 – 30cm depending on variety
Advice	Grow on a dry watering regime especially Autumn sown plants.
Common diseases	Botrytis – Grey Mould occurs when plants are crowded and with poor ventilation. Pythium - stem and root rots occur in cold wet conditions. Avoid over watering.

Geranium

Cutting Raised Geraniums

Approximate crop timing (mid-season)

Paper 66 to flowering	6 – 8 weeks
Growing on:	Good hygiene is essential at all stages of production
Temperature	Minimum of 18°C day and night after potting until root establishment. Later maintain a maximum of 20 – 22°C day and 15 - 17°C night for Zonal types. Peltatum and Scented leafed types 18°C. See CFS G10 for detailed culture of the Regal Pelargoniums.
pH	5.5 - 6.0
Feeding	A balanced NPK weekly feeding should be introduced 2 - 3 weeks after potting, increasing Potassium levels as flower bud develops.
Pot size	Zonal: 11 - 15cm Designer, 11 - 13cm Fantasia Zonal Interspecific: 11 - 15cm Sunrise® Ivy Leaf (Peltatum): 10 - 13cm Precision/Supreme Scented leaf: 11 - 13cm Regal: 12 - 15cm (12-13cm optimal size) Variegated Speciality: 11 - 15cm

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Culture Information

Advice	Allow adequate ventilation to prevent high humidity. Space plants well not allowing the foliage to touch. Do not over water, but wilting plants in high light will scorch.
Common diseases	Botrytis - grey mould. Rust - blotches visible on the upper leaf surface Pythium - stem and root rot. Xanthomonas - Bacterial Blight be serious though not common diseases of cutting raised Geraniums. Strict monitoring of the crop and clean growing conditions are essential.
Common pests	Aphid, Whitefly, Thrips, Red Spider Mite and Caterpillars.

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