

Ranunculus Mache and Magic

Plant type:	Tuberous rooted hardy perennial
Uses:	Patio planters and containers
Sowing:	Sow August to October for March to April colour sales. 15°C. Chilling for 1 week at 4°C after sowing can improve emergence. Germination 3 - 4 weeks. Cover with an average layer of medium Vermiculite.

Approximate crop timing (mid season)

Sowing to transplanting	5 - 6 weeks
Sowing to flowering	Sow August for flowering March Sow October for flowering mid-April
Ball 230 'Preform Plug' to flowering	20 - 22 weeks

Growing on:

Temperature	After transplanting seedling or plug keep at 14 - 16°C for 2 weeks until established. Then average 8 - 10°C (night minimum 5°C, day maximum 12°C) to promote vegetative growth and initiate flower buds. Flower stems will lengthen with high light levels and long days. Temperatures can then be raised to 8 - 12°C night and 12 - 15°C days.
pH	5.8 - 6
Feeding	After establishment a balanced regular feeding program to maintain EC approximately 1.25-1.75. This can increase as the flowers develop.
Growth regulation	The plants respond to Daminozide. The first application should be as soon as the buds are visible in the heart of the plant or as soon as leaf stems begin to elongate. Repeat application may be required. The Magic series do not require any growth regulators which can harm the crop if applied.
Pack/Pot size	Mache: 11 - 13cm pots or 3 plants in a 3 litre pot for premium colour sales. Magic: Ideal for large packs or 10.5cm pots
Spacing	10.5cm pots – 45-50 per m ²
Advice	Plants should not dry out between waterings when actively growing. There should be good ventilation in cold conditions.
Common diseases	Phytophthora, Ramularia, Botrytis and Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus.
Common pests	Aphids, Thrips, Scarid flies, White flies and Leaf Miners.

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.