



## Culture Guide



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# *Samurai™ Gerbera*

## **Culture Guide**

**These are under growing conditions in the Pacific Northwest Coast of Canada**

Seed in new or sterile trays.

Approximate plug size 18 x 18 x 35mm deep (3/4" x 3/4" x 1-3/8")

Use a coarse, moist soil mix— PH 5.8 E.C. 0.7-0.9

Cover seed sparingly with coarse vermiculite, moist until vermiculite is damp, but not wet. Cover with a 2-ml clear plastic for about 4 – 5 days at 23 degrees to 24 degrees Celsius. In the spring and summer, shade seed flats, as the temperature will be too high under the clear plastic.

Do not water in, only lightly mist the surface of the vermiculite. **Gerbera seedlings hate being wet!**

After 2-1/2 weeks, gently water—never saturate the plugs.

The plugs will be ready for transplant after 4 weeks in the summer and 5 weeks in the winter.

After transplantin—Day and night temp. 22 degrees Celsius and 24 degrees vent temp.til final spacing.

**Keep lights on ,all year round,for 18-1/2hr. to 19 hr. from sowing up to final spacing. If an extended day is not used , plants will be too small. For the 10 cm. pots only, light up to the transplant into the 10 cm. pots( 4 – 5 weeks) then propagate without lights and set out earlier to get a smaller plant if desired .**

**Any plants seeded after January 15<sup>th</sup> can be set out earlier, if seeded November or December you should still light the extra 2 – 3 weeks to get a larger plant.**

Use B-9 growth retardant on the 10 cm pots one week after transplanting at 100- 150 PPM if need be. From mid March ‘til September a 2<sup>nd</sup> application may be required just before spacing or 1 week after at 150-300 PPM if the plants appear to be too big. (It is based on the plant size more than anything, along with the weather)

Irrigate overhead when pot tight with an EC of 2.0. Rinse afterwards to avoid spots on the leaves.

Before spacing drench with Alliette fungicide—50 grams per 100 liters.

After spacing on the mats, we drench every 2 weeks (as precautionary measure) using the above rate with Alliette fungicide.

Once plant size is established space immediately. **Space the 10 cm earlier to get a small, compact plant from April 1st onwards that will set bud earlier if not under the lights.**

After spacing, sub-irrigate with an EC level of 1.8 for the 1<sup>st</sup> 3 – 4 waterings then later on reduce to 1.5. With the drip irrigation we use an EC level of 1.8 – 2.0.

Relative Humidity – Ideally 74% ( to keep the plants active)

***Final spacing until finishing***

Temperature            20 degrees Day----- 18 degrees Night

Vent Temperature    22 degrees Day -----20 degrees Night

The Fertilizer rates are as follows:

Pot Tight:            Per 190 Liters concentrate  
Ratio 1:100

30 kg Kristalon White(15-5-30) + 1.8 % mg  
4 kg Kristalon Red (12-12-36) + .8% mg  
4 kg Epson Salts  
850 Grams Iron Chelate 7% ( DTPA)  
30 Grams Manganese sulfate

**(ADJUST TO GET AN EC OF 2.0)**

Spaced on the mats:    Per 190 liters concentrate  
Ratio 1: 100

24 kg Kristalon White  
2 kg Kristalon Red  
3 kg Epson Salts  
850 Grams Iron Chelate 7% (DTPA)  
30 Grams Manganese sulfate

**(ADJUST TO GET AN EC OF 1.5 – 1.6)**

NOTE: Plants that are on the drip irrigation adjust fertilizer to get an EC of 1.8-1.9

NOTE: Don't forget to use the higher EC on the mats as well for the 1<sup>st</sup> 3 – 4 waterings.

This seems to help give the plants an even better deep rich color as well as keeping the size compact .We also from time to time water the mats an EC of 1.8. say once every 7 – 10 days, depending on our soil analysis reports.

Any further questions do not hesitate to call us at (604) 530-9298 or fax (604) 530-9966.