



## NUTRITION

**pH:** 5.2 – 5.6

**EC:** (2:1 extraction method) .6 – .9

Constant feeding at 125ppm – 150ppm nitrogen with a fertilizer selected for grower's water quality and soil mix is recommended.

## TEMPERATURE

**Rooting out:** 65 – 72 F

**Growing on:** 68 – 75 F

**Holding:** 60 – 62 F

## WATERING

Maintain moderate soil moisture. Allow the soil to cycle from moist to dry. Avoid both severe dry downs/wilting and long periods of wet soil, especially at cooler temperatures. Over-watering should be avoided. If grown too wet, growth habit and vigor can be affected and numerous foliar, crown and root diseases can possibly develop. **Water management often determines the quality of the finished plant.**

## TIMING

**4" – 5":** 6 – 7 weeks with one 72 cell plant per container.

## PLANTING

Standard 72 liner cell plants should be planted into a well drained soil mix selected to match individual water quality and fertilizer blends. **Plant the 72 cell plant into the container with the top of the soil ball even with the surface of the container's soil.** Planting too deep can cause Crown Rot. Water in thoroughly without saturating the mix and maintain a constant moderate soil moisture level for the first seven to 10 days to establish new rooting.

## LIGHT/LIGHTING

These plants should be grown in a high light area of the greenhouse for optimal plant and flower development. *Gerbera* are not daylength sensitive but flower sooner and with better overall quality when exposed to 13-hour days. The 72 cell plants have been light conditioned for optimum flowering and no further lighting should be required. If finishing crops early in the season or in poor growing conditions, daylength extension or night interruption lighting may be helpful.

## GROWTH REGULATORS

If required, a spray application of B-Nine® (daminozide) at 1,000ppm – 1,500ppm is effective. Controlling growing temperatures, light levels and especially drier growing practices can be very helpful at managing plant size.

## PEST and DISEASE MANAGEMENT

Botrytis, Powdery Mildew, and various rots can occur in poor growing conditions. Control excessive humidity levels in the greenhouse, provide adequate air movement and supply high light conditions. Avoid over-watering and periods of excessive moisture on the plants' foliage. Provide adequate space for the plants. Be certain to plant the 72 cell plant into the finished container so that the crown of the plant is above the soil line.

Thrips, Whiteflies, Aphids, Spider Mites, and in some areas, Leafminers can be pests of concern.

## OUTDOOR GROWING SCHEDULE

EZdazy™ *Gerbera* finish best in a controlled greenhouse environment, but can be moved outdoors after all threat of frost has passed and weather is consistently warm (late May to early June in Michigan). This recommendation is based on average spring weather and should be adjusted for unseasonably severe or unseasonably mild conditions.

## OTHER TIPS

EZdazy *Gerbera* are relatively easy to grow if proper growing conditions and watering practices are followed. Grow on the moderate to slightly drier side, provide good air movement and give adequate spacing to the plants. Do not plant too deep into the finished container. Maintain proper fertilizer levels. These plants are moderate feed requiring plants, but can show low fertilizer symptoms easily. An application of magnesium sulfate (epsom salts) at the rate of 1 pound per 100 gallons of water two weeks after planting can be helpful to maintain deep green foliage.

Scout and treat as needed for Thrip. If left untreated, Thrips can cause severe damage to open blooms.