

Helichrysum

White, Lemon, Licorice Splash, Petite, and Icicles



NUTRITION

pH: 6.0 – 6.4

EC: (2:1 extraction method) .6 – .9

Constant feeding at 100ppm – 150ppm nitrogen with a fertilizer selected for grower's water quality and soil mix is recommended. Avoid high fertility levels and low soil pH conditions.

TEMPERATURE

Rooting out: 68 – 72 F

Growing on: 68 – 72 F

Holding: 65 – 68 F

WATERING

Control moisture levels and grow moderate to slightly dry to control plant growth. After rooting into the finished container, allow the soil to cycle from moist to slightly dry. Avoid both severe dry downs/wilting and long periods of wet soil, especially at cooler temperatures. Growing too wet early in the production cycle can cause disease issues while severe wilt conditions can damage root systems and lower foliage.

TIMING

4" – 5": 4 – 6 weeks with one 84 or 104 Liner plant per container.

6"/1GL Royale: 5 – 7 weeks with one to two 84 or 104 Liner plants per container.

8": 6 – 8 weeks with one to two 84 or 104 Liner plants per container.

10" – 12": 8 – 11 weeks with three to five 84 or 104 Liner plants per container.

PLANTING

After receiving plants, transplant them as soon as possible. Lower older foliage on Lemon, Licorice Splash, and White may have some dried and damaged leaves. This is caused by the "shock" of moving from propagation to growing areas. The plants have been preventatively treated, and no disease should be present. The 84 and 104 Liner plants should be planted at the same level as the top of the 84 cell or only slightly deeper into a well-drained soil mix selected to match individual water quality and fertilizer blends. 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. Watering lightly and more frequently will best establish rooting into the finished container and avoid transplant shock.

The plants have already been pinched once during the 84 tray production cycle. Pinching should not be needed except in the case of taller material at time of planting or for larger containers. A second softer pinch can be performed as needed for larger containers, typically to shape the plant. Pinching should be avoided until plants are well rooted into the finished container.

LIGHT/LIGHTING

Helichrysum should be grown in a moderate light level area of the greenhouse for optimal plant development and branching. Greenhouse areas with slightly lower light levels can also be used if proper temperature, humidity, air movement, and watering practices are supplied. *Helichrysum* should not require day length or supplemental lighting.

GROWTH REGULATORS

Growing under proper light conditions, with adequate spacing, moderate soil moisture levels, and recommended temperatures will produce the highest quality plants and lower the need for PGR treatments.

If required, a spray application of B-Nine® (daminozide) at 2,500ppm is effective.

PEST and DISEASE MANAGEMENT

With proper growing conditions and water management, disease issues should not be a problem. Control excessive humidity levels in the greenhouse, provide good air movement, do not over fertilize, maintain proper soil pH levels, and provide adequate space. Watch for Powdery Mildew and Botrytis.

OUTDOOR GROWING SCHEDULE

Helichrysums are moderate heat-loving plants and should be grown outdoors only after the danger of frost has passed and temperatures have warmed. Foliage can be damaged from a very light frost or chilling temperatures. At Four Star we only move these crops outdoors in mid-May if weather allows.

OTHER TIPS

For proper plant growth and desired finished quality, supply lightly shaded to moderate light conditions in the greenhouse, moderate temperatures, adequate spacing, managed moisture levels, and moderate nutrition levels. These crops are quite vigorous and require some extra care until well established in their finished containers. Plants should be scheduled and grown in time frames that supply these requirements.



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The rates and chemicals listed are based on our southeast Michigan growing conditions, and are not recommended for nationwide application. Please adjust the rates and spray applications to your location and facility.