# RANUNCULUS SPRINKLES **CULTIVATION GUIDE**



### **Ranunculus** Sprinkles

- Flowering period: winter-spring
- Pot size: 4", qt, 6", gallon (10.5–16 cm)
- Round plant structure
- Abundant new buds and continual blooms
- · Uniformity in height and timing within the color range
- Minimal use of PGR



Violet Bicolour (Impure, 40% is Pink Bicolour)

Yellow Red Bicolour Light Pink

### **Ranunculus Sprinkles Dwarf**

- Flowering period: winter-spring
- Pot size: 4", qt" (10,5–12 cm)
- Genetically compact version of Sprinkles
- Round plant structure
- Abundant large buds and continual blooms
- Uniformity within the colors
- Little to no PGR



## **RANUNCULUS SPRINKLES & SPRINKLES DWARF-CULTIVATION GUIDE**

#### PROPAGATION

Ranunculus Sprinkles should be sown I seed per cell in a 288 or similar plug tray. Plug trays should be moistened immediately and not allowed to dry during germination. It is suggested to germinate in a dark environment. Temperatures during germination should be maintained at 38-44°F (3-5°C) for the first 7-9 days. Increase temperatures to 40-62°F (4-17°C) for 10-14 days. If controlled temperature cannot be obtained then germinate at a constant 50-59°F (10-15°C). After removing seedling from germination chambers it is important to maintain short days (less than 11 hours day length) to keep plants vegetative.

#### TRANSPLANT

Fill pots with airy potting compost enriched with lime and fertilizer, pH 5.8 - 6.0 and EC 0.8 - 1.0 mS/cm. Use young plants with at least 4 or 5 developed leaves. Make sure that the plugs level are sufficiently moist (level 3 - 4).

#### **CLIMATE**

Temperature: during the first 6 - 8 weeks maintain the temperature at 57-61°F(14-16°C), then gradually lower the temperature to no less than  $37^{\circ}F(3^{\circ}C)$ .

RH: 60 - 80%. In all circumstances, ensure there is an active climate via ventilation, use fans or set the heating pipe to a minimum temperature.

Light: the first 2-3 weeks after potting on, set the light levels to  $450 - 500 \text{ W/m}^2$  (40 - 44 Klux, 3710 - 4080 foot-candle). As soon as the roots are visible at the edge of the pot, gradually increase the light levels to 500 – 650 W/m² (44 – 61 Klux, 4080 – 5660 foot-candle). Use a movable screen, net or chalk the greenhouse roof.

#### WATERING

After potting on, water the plants from above for the first few weeks (moisture level 3 - 4) to encourage good growth and a good microclimate. Water preferably in the mornings so that the crop is dry before nightfall. As soon as the first roots are visible at the edge of the pot, the plants can be grown under dryer conditions (moisture level 3). As soon as the first buds are visible, water preferably from below. It is important to keep the plants moist.

#### **FERTILIZATION**

During the first 3 – 4 weeks use an NPK fertilizer including trace elements with an N:K ratio of 1:1, add lime and iron (EDDHA) to the fertilizer regularly. Depending on the growth, adjust the N:K ratio to 1:3. Aim for an EC of 0.7 - 0.9 mS/cm in the pot. Take soil samples once every 4 to 6 weeks to determine the nutritional status in

the pot.All EC and pH values are determined according to the extraction method 1:1.5

#### **GROWTH REGULATION**

Growth can be regulated by timely fertilization with additional potassium, by keeping the plants a little dryer (level 3) or by applying a temperature drop. In the vegetative phase, we recommend using the chemical growth regulator Daminozide. As soon as the buds begin to form, use Propiconazole to keep the flower stems short. During the last 4-6 weeks of the crop cycle. It is important to keep the plant more moist (moisture level 4).

#### PLEASE NOTE: Sprinkles Dwarf requires little to no growth regulator, but pay attention when the flower stems begin to grow. Then use Propiconazole to keep the flower stems short.

#### FLOWERING PERIOD

The flowering period for Ranunculus can be advanced by increasing the temperature 55-62°F (13-17°C) and increasing the light levels and day length 6 - 8 weeks before flowering.

#### **CROP PROTECTION**

The following pests and diseases may damage your Ranunculus crop:

- Botrytis
- Leaf miner Powdery mildew Caterpillars
- Leaf spot Fungus gnats
- Greenfly Thrips

Apply preventive measures regularly. Consult your local crop protection specialist for the correct products and concentrations.

Level	Substrate colour	When the substrate is squeezed	Substrate structure
Level I Dry	Very light brown or grey	No moisture comes out of the substrate	Substrate is bone-dry and falls apart easily
Level 2 Dry-moderately moist	Light brown	No moisture comes out of the substrate, but moisture is present	Substrate hardly sticks together under pressure
Level 3 Moderately moist	Brown to dark brown	A small amount of moisture comes from the substrate	Substrate sticks together under pressure, but falls apart easily
Level 4 Moist	Dark brown	Water can easily be squeezed out of the substrate	Substrate sticks together easily under pressure and remains compressed
Level 5 Saturated	Brown to black, visible moisture	The water runs out of the substrate without squeezing	The substrate is almost fluid

If you have more detailed questions about cultivating your Ranunculus, please do not hesitate to contact our Growing Advice department.

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