



- *Essential for bouquets, corsages and other flower arrangements*
- *Suitable for cut flower greenhouse production*
- *Quickly becoming the wedding flower of choice*

## ABC FI Series Double-Flowered Lisianthus

Displays an outstanding multi-flower, double-flower form with high petal counts and bright strong solid colours on tall, strong stems.

Native to dry areas, it is also called the “rose of the South” and is becoming more and more popular due to its beautiful delicate appearance with strong stems and petals.

With a very long vase life expectancy it is said that it “grows” in the flower arrangements as the buds keep opening while in the vases.

When used in bouquets or flower arrangements, it adds a touch of class and increases the perception of high end quality and elite value.

Fast series blooms uniformly within the colour. It is rosetting resistant with a shorter cropping cycle when compared to other varieties.

## FI Cut Flower Lisianthus

Ball has consolidated Lisianthus offerings into two series of the very best double and single Lisianthus, consisting of new genetics and existing varieties. Growers can now produce a high quality finished crop in a comprehensive colour range using just one single series and double series. And the end consumer can enjoy the best quality finished product with exceptional colours.

- Double Lisianthus are now known as the ABC series.
- Single Lisianthus are now known as the Laguna series.

Two other important features of the ABC and Laguna series are the seedling vigor and proven reduced sensitivity to rosetting. These traits enable plugs to be finished 1 to 2 weeks faster than comparable varieties and produce uniform crops. Lisianthus flowers are not Ethylene sensitive, therefore do not shatter and are easy to ship. Added to the variety descriptions for ABC and Laguna Lisianthus are “Seasonality Numbers” shown in front of the names. These numbers simplify the choice of the most suitable varieties for specific climatic conditions. The first number, “Speed Guide,” tells whether the variety is faster or slower to flower.

The second number, “Versatility Guide,” indicates whether the variety can be grown over a longer or shorter flowering period.



- A ABC 1-1 Rose Rim:** Formerly Avila Rose Rim.
- B ABC 1-2 Deep Rose:** Formerly Avila Deep Rose.
- C ABC 1-3 Purple:** Formerly Avila Purple.
- D ABC 2-2 Purple:** Formerly Balboa Purple.
- E ABC 2-3 Blue:** Formerly Balboa Blue Improved.
- F ABC 2-3 Blue Blush:** Formerly Balboa Blue Blush Improved.
- G ABC 2-3 Blue Rim:** Formerly Balboa Blue Rim.
- H ABC 2-3 Green:** Faster flowering with deeper green petal colour than the competition.
- I ABC 2-3 Rose:** Formerly Balboa Rose.
- J ABC 2-4 Yellow:** Formerly Catalina Yellow.
- K ABC 3-4 Purple:** Formerly Catalina Purple.
- L ABC 3-4 Rose:** Formerly Catalina Rose.
- M ABC 3-4 White:** Formerly Catalina White.
- N Avila Ivory:** Though not included in the ABC series, Avila Ivory is available as a separate variety. Winter-flowering.



# Lisianthus ABC

## Cultural Information

*Eustoma Grandiflora*

**Crop time:** 14 to 18 weeks.

**Planting Density:** 64 to 84 plants/sq-m (6 to 8 plants/sq-ft.net).

### Pre planting

**-Media:** Lisianthus should be produced in disease free soils with a medium initial nutrient charge.

**-pH:** 6.5 to 7.2. Lisianthus prefers a high pH media.

High salt levels will delay flowering and can promote rosetting in susceptible varieties.

**-Netting:** One to two layers of support netting 15 x 20 cm (4 x 6 in.) are recommended.

Cooler growing temperature will add to stem strength and caliper, but will increase the production time.

Higher temperatures above 28°C (82°F) during the first 4 weeks after transplant can induce rosetting in susceptible varieties.

### Irrigation

Begin production with overhead irrigation, then switch to drip irrigation 2 to 3 weeks following transplant.

Keep the media moist but not wet; allow to dry slightly between waterings. Lisianthus grow slowly at first, and therefore requires little water. Do not allow the soil to dry out when plants are in flower.

### Fertilization

Fertilize every other irrigation with calcium nitrate-based fertilizer at 100 to 200 ppm N.

**-EC:** 1.5 mmhos/cm (using 1:2 extraction). Discontinue fertilizer applications as buds become visible.

### Harvest

Harvest Lisianthus when one or more flowers are open. Harvest in the mornings, when flower and plant tissues are cool.

### Post harvest

Always use clean buckets with fresh cool water for harvested stems. If stems are hydrated in a 3% sucrose v solution for 24 hours after harvest, vase life will increase.

Do not ship flowers that have not had field heat removed. Keep harvested stems in coolers to optimize post harvest life.

### Pests & Diseases

- Aphids
- Leaf miners
- Thrips sp
- Whitefly
- Botrytis sp
- Fusarium sp
- Pythium sp
- Rhizoctonia sp
- TOSPO Viruses