

Spray Stock Matthiola

- *Great accent item provides smell, volume and colour to bouquets and flower arrangements*
- *Suitable for cut flower greenhouse or field production*

Stocks are an old-time favorite that have never gone out of style. The new Stocks Spray combines all the desirable characteristics of the standard stock, but it has been bred to suit the bouquet market, since one stem can make a bouquet on its own.

The outstanding characteristics, such as sweet fragrance, bright and solid colours plus the branching habit with all the flowers blooming on top, make it very desirable in the growing bouquet business.

Excellent choice for flower bouquets.



- A** White
- B** Yellow
- C** Apricot
- D** Cherry
- E** Cool Pink
- F** Deep Rose
- G** Fantasy
- H** Pink
- I** Light Pink
- J** Lovely
- K** Sunset
- L** Rose
- M** Purple
- N** Blue
- O** Lavender
- P** Marine

Cultural Information

Matthiola incana

Crop time: 12 weeks. Crop time is dependent on day length and light intensity. As a general guide, with day length of 13 hours or more, the crop time will be 10 weeks. Shorter days will slow down the crop time, depending on the temperature, to 15 weeks.

Planting Density: 100 plants/sq-m.net (12 plants/sq-ft.net).

Pre-planting

-Soil: Well surfaced, loose soil with no clusters. At least 25 cm (10 in.) deep.

-pH: 5.0 to 6.0.

-Netting: One level of support netting 15 x 20 cm (4 x 6 in.) is recommended.

Pinch

Week 8 to 9 (to even up the spray).

Irrigation

Begin production with overhead irrigation, then switch to drip irrigation 1 week following transplant. Keep at field capacity on the first 4 weeks, this depending on climatic conditions. Allow to dry slightly between waterings; the more mature the plants are, the dryer you can go. In the end you must go a little dryer in order to get a stronger stem and a better flower form.

Avoid conditions that are either too wet or too dry. Wet conditions can cause diseases including Root Rot, Downy Mildew and Bacterial Blight. Dry conditions can cause wilting and lower leaf chlorosis which then exposes plants to other infections. It is critical to differentiate between

lower leaf chlorosis symptoms caused by nutrient deficiency/drought stress or Downy Mildew.

Fertilization

Begin fertilization one week after transplanting and continue fertilizing until the end of the crop time. When it is sown on a rotation program with crops that are heavily fertilized, i.e carnations, there is no need to fertilize (only on the first sowing after the rotation).

Apply Potassium Nitrate starting on week 6 to improve the floral spike.

-EC: 1.4.

Harvest

Cut stems when 35% to 50% of the flowers are open, depending on your market demand.

Post harvest

Hydrate during harvest on the field.

Floral preservatives are useful in extending vase life. Use STS for 2 hours and then use a bactericide solution for at least 8 hours before going to cooler. Stems should be precooled prior to shipping at a temperature of 1°C (34°F) for an optimal post harvest life. Stems can be packed horizontally.

Pests & Diseases

- Leaf Miner
- Sclerotinia
- Caterpillars and thrips
- Downy Mildew
- Root Rots
- Bacteria Blight
- Botrytis sp
- Pythium sp
- Fusarium sp
- Xanthomonas sp