

Iberis Whiteout

(*Iberis sempervirens*)

Germination

Approximate seed count (raw): 9,500 to 12,600 S./oz. (340 to 450 S./g)

Key flowering facts:

- Perennial with USDA Hardiness Zone: 3 to 9
- Photoperiod response: day-neutral plant
- Vernalization: Required; with a minimum of 8 to 10 weeks at 41°F (5°C)

Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless media with a pH of 5.5 to 6.2.

Sowing

Sow 3 to 4 seeds per cell in 288 plug trays. Cover the seeds lightly with vermiculite.

Stage 1 – Germination takes 4 to 7 days

Soil temperature: 65 to 68°F (18 to 20°C)

Light: Light is optional.

Moisture: Keep soil wet (level 4) during Stage 1.

Humidity: Maintain 95 to 97%+ relative humidity (RH) until radicles emerge.

Plug Production

Stage 2

Soil temperature: 60 to 65°F (16 to 18°C)

Light: Can be up to 2,500 f.c. (26,900 Lux).

Moisture: Reduce soil moisture slightly (level 3 to 4) to allow the roots to penetrate into the media.

Fertilizer: Apply fertilizer at rate 1 (less than 100 ppm N; less than 0.7 mmhos/cm EC) from nitrate-form fertilizers with low phosphorous.

Stage 3

Soil temperature: 60 to 65°F (16 to 18°C)

Light: Can be up to 2,500 f.c. (26,900 Lux).

Moisture: Remain soil moisture at level 3 to 4.

Fertilizer: Increase fertilizer to rate 2 (100 to 175 ppm N; 0.7 to 1.2 mmhos/cm EC).

Growth Regulators: Not needed

Stage 4

Soil temperature: 60 to 65°F (16 to 18°C)

Light: Can be up to 5,000 f.c. (54,000 Lux).

Moisture: Same as Stage 3.

Fertilizer: Same as Stage 3.

Growing On to Finish

Container Size

4-in. (10-cm) / square/quart pots: 1 plug per pot

Gallon (7 in./18 cm): 1 to 2 plugs per pot

Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless media with a pH of 5.5 to 6.2 and an EC of 1.2 to 1.4 mmhos/cm.

Vernalization :

Required; minimum 8 to 10 weeks between 35 and 41°F (2 and 5°C). Plants should be bulked for about 8 to 10 weeks before being receptive to cold treatment.

Temperature (optimum)

Nights: 41 to 50°F (5 to 10°C)

Days: 60 to 72°F (16 to 22°C)

Light

As high as possible while maintaining moderate temperature.

Photoperiod

Whiteout is a day-neutral plant.

Irrigation

Keep media moisture medium wet (level 4; substrate color is dark brown) for the first 4 to 6 weeks after potting in bulking stage; hereafter reduce the moisture level to level 2 to 3 (medium dry to medium moist).

Fertilizer

Whiteout generally needs average fertilization. Apply fertilizer at rate 3 (175 to 210 ppm N; 1.2 to 1.4 mmhos/cm).

Growth Regulators

Generally not needed.

Pinching

Not needed due to strong branching habit.

Crop Scheduling

Sow to transplant (288 cell plug): 7 to 8 weeks

Transplant to flower: 26 to 36 weeks

Total crop time: 33 to 44 weeks

Normal production:

Sowing May to mid-August will give natural flowering from March to May the following year.

Common Problems

Insect: Mites, Slugs

Disease: Botrytis, Downy Mildew

Note: Downy Mildew will cause leaf dropping.

Garden and Landscape Information

- USDA Hardiness Zones: 3 to 9
- Whiteout is deer and rabbit resistant
- Whiteout is drought tolerant once established
- Garden location: Full Sun
- Finished height: 6 to 8 in./15 to 20 cm
- Finished spread: 8 to 12 in./20 to 30 cm
- Garden spacing: 14 in./35 cm

Note: Growers should use the information presented here as a starting point. Crop times will vary depending on the climate, location, time of year, and greenhouse environmental conditions. Chemical and PGR recommendations are only guidelines. It is the responsibility of the applicator to read and follow all the current label directions for the specific chemical being used in accordance with all regulations.

