

Nemesia Aromatica

(*Nemesia fruticans*)

A Ball FloraPlant Product

Propagation

- Choose a well-drained medium with an EC of 0.75 to 0.80 mmhos and a pH of 5.8 to 6.2
- Stick cuttings within 12 to 24 hours of arrival. Cuttings can be stored overnight, if necessary, at 45 to 50°F (7 to 10°C)
- Soil temperature should be maintained at 68 to 73°F (20 to 23°C) until roots are visible
- Once roots are visible, the media should be kept moderately wet and never saturated. This will prevent iron deficiency and the associated chlorotic foliage which can develop
- Begin fertilization with 75 to 100 ppm N when roots become visible. Increase to 150 to 200 ppm N as roots develop
- As the rooted cuttings develop, high light and moderate air temperatures should reduce the need for chemical plant growth regulators (PGR). If necessary, B-Nine can be used to control growth and improve habit
- **Aromatica** Nemesia requires pinching during propagation. To improve branching and habit, plants can be pinched 7 to 10 days before transplanting
- Nemesia rooted cuttings should be ready for transplanting 21 to 24 days after sticking

Growing On to Finish

Media

- Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium
- Maintain a media pH of 5.8 to 6.2

Temperature

- Nights: 35 to 52°F (2 to 11°C)
- Days: 65 to 76°F (18 to 24°C)
- Excessively warm temperatures will cause stem stretch.
- Recommended night temperatures will create maximum branching and the best possible habit

Light

- Keep light intensities at 4,000 to 7,000 f.c. (40,000 to 70,000 Lux)
- Low light levels promote stem stretch
- **Aromatica** Nemesia is daylength-neutral and will flower equally well all year
- Reduce light intensity when temperatures are high to prevent flower and leaf burning

Watering

- **Aromatica** Nemesia is susceptible to Botrytis. Avoid high humidity and wet foliage to discourage disease development
- When plants are young, allow the media to dry slightly between waterings to improve habit and encourage flowering

Fertilizer

- Maintain constant fertilization at 175 to 225 ppm N
- Excessive phosphorous and ammoniacal nitrogen will promote unwanted vegetative growth. Both should be provided in very limited quantities
- If new growth is chlorotic, add chelated iron to the fertilizer as needed
- Slow-release fertilizer can be incorporated at a moderate rate to supplement a liquid program
- Use clear water with every third watering if high soluble salt problems occur

Pinching

- Pinch plants back 7 to 10 days after transplanting to improve basal branching
- For a larger basket or container, a second pinch can be applied but will delay flowering by approximately 2 weeks
- Plants will generally bloom 5 to 6 weeks after a pinch

Controlling Growth

- The best way to control the growth of **Aromatica** Nemesia is to grow the crop cool, provide bright light and apply moderate, regular water stress to promote flowering and reduce unwanted vegetative growth
- To further control growth and improve flowering and habit, growers can use 1 or more applications of B-Nine (1,500 to 3,000 ppm), starting 2 weeks after transplant
- Use of PGRs can delay flowering 1 to 2 weeks. Avoid spraying once flower buds appear
- In general, more frequent applications of any growth regulator at a lower concentration will produce the best results
- These recommendations for plant growth regulators should be used only as general guidelines. Growers must trial all chemicals under their particular conditions

Common Problems

Insects: Aphids, thrips, whitefly, leafminers, fungus gnats

Diseases: Botrytis, Rhizoctonia, Pythium

All Aromatica Nemesia are derived from culture and virus-indexed stock from the **Ball Certified Plants®** program.

Problem: Plant collapse

Causes: Wet media for an extended period of time (Pythium, Rhizoctonia, Botrytis)

Problem: Excessive vegetative growth

Causes: High ammonia in media; Over-fertilization under low light conditions; Over-watering under low light conditions

Problem: Poor branching

Causes: Low fertilization, especially nitrogen; Low light conditions

Problem: Stretched plants

Causes: Low light conditions; Crowding before spacing; Late transplanting; Excessive phosphorous

Aromatica Nemesia Schedule & Uses

Unrooted cuttings:

4-In. (10-Cm) Pots 1 PP* 8 - 10 weeks

6-In. (15-Cm) Pots 1–2 PP* 10 - 12 weeks

10–12-In. (25–30-Cm) Pots 3–5 PP* 12 - 14 weeks

Rooted cuttings:

4-In. (10-Cm) Pots 1 PP* 5 - 7 weeks

6-In. (15-Cm) Pots 1–2 PP* 7 - 9 weeks

10–12-In. (25–30-Cm) Pots 3–5 PP* 9 - 11 weeks

*PP: Plants per pot or basket

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.

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