

## Instructions for growing *Pelargonium Grandiflorum*

### Soil

Use a light, good quality potting soil. A ratio of 50 % garden peat and 50% peat moss is standard. If the 'ebb and flow' method is used, add 10% Purlite. Fertilizer: 1 to 1.5 kg P.G. mix + 0.5 kg triple superphosphate.

### Temperature

Starting temperature for potting on is  $\pm 15^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Once the plant is well rooted, lower the temperature to 5 to  $8^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Hold this temperature for 6 to 8 weeks in order to get the plant to set buds (cold period). After this cold period increase the temperature slowly to a maximum of  $12^{\circ}\text{C}$ . If the weather is very mild, increased light can be given to a maximum of  $4^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

### Light

With 16 hours assimilation lightning at 2500 watt a square metre, the plant will flower after  $\pm 8$  weeks. Start this process halfway through December if the plants have had a cold period of at least 6 weeks. Average  $< 10^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

### Fertilizing

Once the plants are well rooted, add plant food each time you water. When the buds are clearly visible, alternate occasionally with mixed fertilizer with a higher nitrogen content (e.g. 20-20-20), because the plant uses more nitrogen at this stage.

### Growth control

In early autumn and after the cold period, growth regulators should be used if growth is too fast. The following growth regulators can also be used:

- Cycocel(750 gr/lit):60 to 100 ml per 100 litres of water
- Bonzi: 100 to 500 ml per 100 litres of water

Growth regulators measures should be used while the root ball is moist; either in the morning, just after dawn, or in the evening, to prevent leaf burn.

### Plant protection

Botrytis and Phytophthora are the main diseases to which *Pelargonium* is susceptible. Rovral, Topsin, Teldor and Thiram can be used against Botrytis. Previcur, Aliette or Ridomil Gold can be used against Phytophthora. Admire, Admiral, Teppeki, Aseptacarex, Decis en Applaud can be used against white fly. Use Nomolt against caterpillars.

**Warning:** Before using the above mentioned growth regulators check if those products are permitted in your country. Hendriks Young Plants is not responsible for using regulators which are forbidden by national law.

Please contact us for questions or more information.