

Anemone Gemstone

Crop	Anemone
Series	Gemstone
Botanical name	<i>Anemone coronaria</i>
Plant type	Perennial
Seed type	De-fuzz
Seed count	1,800 seeds / gr
Germination	15-18°C - 10-14 days light favored
Growing	10-24°C
Optimum pH	5.4-6.0 (seedling/peat moss) 6.0-7.0 (finishing)

Plug Culture: 9 weeks (288 deep cell tray)

Stage 1 (days 1-21) Sow seed into a 288 plug tray using a well-drained sterile media with good aeration. Place uncovered or lightly covered by vermiculite in a germination chamber and drench with 100 ppm's of captan to avoid disease (damping off and botrytis) if possible. Optimum germination temperature is 15°C. Provide high humidity throughout the germination period, never allowing the media to dry out. After radicle emergence (6-7 days), lightly cover with a peat/vermiculite blend and provide light in the chamber. Please avoid temperatures above 18°C. Recommended to use lighting for making cotyledons open quickly.

Stage 2 (days 22-41) Cotyledons are fully expanded. Place the seedlings in a well-ventilated greenhouse with low humidity to avoid disease problems. Optimum growing temperature is 16-18°C at night and below 25°C during the day. Fertilize 2-3 times per week at 50-100 ppm nitrogen using a well-balanced formulation such as 15-16-17.

Stage 3 (days 42-49) As the seedlings begin to fill in the trays, allow the plants to dry down slightly in

between irrigations to maximize root growth. Increase fertilizer rate to 100-150 ppm of nitrogen as needed to maintain healthy growth.

Stage 4 (days 50-63) Applying extra phosphorus at this stage will strengthen the root system prior to transplanting.

Transplanting to finish: 12-14 weeks

Transplanting: When the seedlings have 4-6 true leaves, they are ready to transplant into cut flower beds. Take special care in removing the seedlings from the trays to avoid root damage. Anemones will respond best in a soil with good fertility, high organic matter, and excellent drainage. Optimum pH in soil-based media is 6.0-7.0. Anemone roots are naturally brown in color.

Spacing: Recommended spacing is 15 cm x 15 cm (44 plants per square meter).

Fertilizer: Maintain the soil somewhat dry at first to promote new root growth. Once new roots emerge, apply 150-200 ppm nitrogen from a well-balanced liquid fertilizer, such as 15-16-17, to promote healthy growth of the plants. Periodic applications of calcium nitrate are recommended to strengthen flower stems and plant tissue. Water thoroughly to prevent excess salts. Excess nitrogen can promote overgrowth of the foliage. Water early in the day if irrigating overhead to prevent foliar diseases.

Temperature: After transplanting, establish at 15-18°C for one week. Next, lower the temperature to 10-13°C nighttime and 15-18°C daytime for optimum development and flower stem length. Ideally, do not exceed 20°C daytime and below 5°C nighttime.

Light: Apply shading as needed to reduce excess heat from intense sunshine or to increase stem length

in high light areas. Anemone Gemstone is day length neutral but develops faster under longer photoperiods and warmer temperatures.

Pests: aphids, thrips, and whiteflies

Disease: botrytis, downy mildew, pythium and rhizoctonia.

Harvesting: Harvest when buds are fully colored. Cut early morning when one-third to one-half of the petals (actually sepals) begin opening, before fully open and shedding pollen. For local sales some growers prefer to pick after the flower has opened and closed once. Others wait until the peduncle between the petals and circle of foliage starts to elongate before harvesting. Recommended to have a test each system to see what works best.

Post-Harvest: Maintain stems in a 2 to 4% sugar solution or commercial holding solution to extend vase life. Holding solutions specifically made for Anemones are available. Re-cutting stem ends during each transfer extends vase life.

Storage and shipping procedures: After conditioning, store stems in a holding solution containing sugar and a germicide to improve flower opening. Stems should be stored and shipped in a vertical position to avoid stem bending and kept at below 10°C.

Ethylene: Anemone is sensitive to ethylene and exposure to ethylene causes petal abscission and shorter vase life. Treat stems with STS or 1-MCP before shipping or storage.

“A true jewel among Anemone: Gemstone produces over 15 flowers per plant, flowering under low light levels with no need for netting or disbudding”.

All information given is intended for general guidance only and may have to be adjusted to meet individual needs. Cultural details are based on Asian conditions such as in Japan and Sakata cannot be held responsible for any crop damage related to the information given herein. Always follow manufacturer's label instructions. Testing a few plants prior to treating the entire crop is best.