



Crop	Stock
Series	Quartet
Botanical name	<i>Matthiola incana</i>
Plant type	Annual
Seed type	Raw
Seed count	500 seeds/ gr
Germination	18-20°C light favored
Growing	10-16°C
Optimum pH	5.8-6.2

Plug Culture: 4 weeks (288 /cell tray)

Stage 1 (days 1-10) Sow seed into a plug tray filled with a well-drained media and lightly cover with medium vermiculite. Maintain even moisture and a temperature of 18-20°C. *Selection for double seedlings may be done between days 8 and 13.

Stage 2 (days 10-17) When germination is complete, move plug trays to a well-lighted area with good ventilation. Fertilize lightly with 100 ppm nitrogen and reduce temperature to 16°C days and 10°C nights.

Stage 3 (days 18-25) Fertilize as needed to maintain strong growth and provide plenty of light and good air circulation.

Stage 4 (days 26-30) When the seedlings reach the 4-5 true leaf stage, transplant into beds. Stock Quartet flowers earlier than other varieties so never delay transplanting into beds.

* Stock Quartet produces 55% double flowers without selection. To increase the percentage of double flowers, use the following procedure.

1. Sow 3-4 seeds a plug cell with Stock Quartet seed.
2. 8 days after sowing remove the last to germinate

seedling with a tweezers. If only two seedlings germinate wait until the next step.

3. Around day 9-10 allow the soil to dry slightly. This will make the final selection easier. Make the final selection around day 14 before the emergence of the first true leaves.

- The double-flowered seedlings are more vigorous and grow more rapidly.
- Double-flowered seedlings have larger and longer cotyledons with a more irregular/elliptical shape and a lighter green color.
- Single-flowered seedlings will be shorter, with smaller cotyledons with a more round/oval shape and darker green color.

*Please see the below variety as reference on double-flowered seedling selection:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vnYgqQbTDt0>

Transplanting to finish: 12 weeks

Bed Preparation: Select a sunny location with good drainage and a fertile soil.

Planting: Plant 12.5-15 cm apart and water regularly. Never allow the media to dry out for the first week. Avoid strong direct sunlight until the plants are established in the cut flower bed.

Temperature: Stock prefers cooler temperatures and after transplant keep the day temperature under 21°C with a night temperature of 7-10°C.

Support: Stock Quartet needs supporting nets when the plants are about 30 cm tall. Add additional netting as plants grow up.

Fertilizer: Maintain an EC level around 1.0 mS/cm* in clay soil and 1.25 mS/cm* in sandy soil and fertilize as needed to maintain healthy plants. Stock has a higher need for potassium so target the nitrogen: potassium ratio at 1: 1.5. Avoid high rates of ammonium since it promotes softer growth and

thinner stems. Water sufficiently during production and then keep rather dry from visible bud to harvest.

*1:2 slurry

Moisture: Stock Quartet has a less vigorous root system and needs consistent moisture during the early production phase (do not dry out). Then, reduce moisture (but do not allow wilting) from visible bud to harvest.

Pests: aphids

Disease: botrytis and sclerotium.

Pinch: When color first shows on the lower buds of the central stem, it can be pinched out to create a nice spray shape with 4 even flower spikes.

Non-pinch: If plants are not pinched there will be a slight gap between the blooming of the center spike and side spikes.

Harvesting: For local sales cut stems with 7-15 open flowers. For long distance shipping cut with 2-3 open flowers.

Characteristics: Stock Quartet is an early blooming series with a unique spray type and strong stems. Stem length tends to be shorter than single spike Stock, but the strong stems re-hydrate well after cutting.

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.