

ANNUAL
PROPAGATION

OSTEOSPERMUM MARGARITA

Osteospermum ecklonis



TRAY & ROOTING

Form	Vegetative Cutting (URC)
Rooting Hormone?	Yes
Tray Size	
Plants Per Cell	1
Days In Mist	10-16
Wks. From Stick To Transplant	4-5
Propagation Pinch?	No
Weeks To Pinch	N/A

FERTILITY

Fertilize Through Mist?	50-75ppm N
Fertilizer Rate	100-150ppm N
EC Range	Low: (0.8-2.0 mS via SME)
pH Range	5.6-6.2

TEMPERATURE

Average Soil Temp	20-22°C
Average Air Temp (Day)	20-22°C
Average Air Temp(Night)	16-18°C

IRRIGATION

Irrigation Frequency	Level 2: Allow media to dry moderately between thorough waterings
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LIGHT

Daylength Neutral?	Yes
Supplemental	None
Benefits From Shade?	No

POTENTIAL DISEASES

Botrytis, Pythium, Thielaviopsis

POTENTIAL PESTS

Thrips, Whiteflies, Aphids

PGR SUGGESTIONS

- Chlormequat

CULTIVAR LIST

Bronze Bicolor, Cool Purple, Dark Pink, Lemon, Lilac, Orange Flare, Purple, Rioja Red, Soft Pink, Sunset, White, Yellow



TIPS

- The thick, stiff leaves of Osteos require smaller quantities of mist but at higher frequencies in the first 4 days. Apply only enough mist to prevent wilting of the cuttings.
- Reduce mist as soon as roots are visible and cease mist completely as soon as possible. Begin feeding and increase light using supplemental light if desired.
- It is not recommended to pinch Osteospermum in the liner, it is best to wait until after transplant. However, if any flower buds appear in the liner, they should be removed.

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FINISHING

OSTEOSPERMUM MARGARITA

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CONTAINER SIZE	PLANTS PER POT	TRANSPLANT TO FINISH (WEEKS)
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10-12 cm	1	8-10
13-15 cm	1	11-14
19 cm and up	3	12-15

FERTILITY

Fertilizer Rate **150-200 ppm N**

EC Range **High: (3.5-5 mS via SME)**

pH Range **5.6-6.2**

TEMPERATURE

Day Temperature **20-24°C**

Night Temperature **18-23°C**

IRRIGATION

Irrigation Frequency **Level 3: Keep media moderately moist with mild dry cycles**

LIGHT

Daylength Neutral? **Yes**

Optimum Light Level **5,000-9,000 fc (53,800-96,900 lux)**

Supplemental **None**

Benefits From Shade? **No**

PINCHING

Finishing Pinch? **Yes**

Transplant to Pinch (days) **7-14**

POTENTIAL DISEASES

Botrytis, Pythium, Thieleveopsis

POTENTIAL PESTS

Thrips, Whiteflies, Aphids

PGR SUGGESTIONS

- Daminozide as a spray or can combine with Chlormequat as a tank mix



TIPS

- Begin PGR applications after pinch when new growth is soft. More frequent applications may be necessary if growing in a small container. If using B-Nine (85% Daminozide), be sure to apply before buds are visible so as not to delay flowering or reduce flower size.
- Allow media to dry between waterings but do not allow plants to wilt. Avoid saturated media.
- Leach regularly to avoid buildup of soluble salts. Osteos benefit from a high feed regimen. When plants are grown with low feed, they will not branch properly and the stems will become woody and hard.
- A hard pinch is required when plants are established after transplant. Once established, pinch leaving 3 nodes to maximize branching

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FEATURES AND BENEFITS

OSTEOSPERMUM MARGARITA

Osteospermum ecklonis



KEY INFORMATION

Primary Common Name	Cape Daisy
Consumer Watering Instructions	Water thoroughly when top 3cm of soil is dry.
Bloom Time	Blooms Spring to Autumn
Exposure	Full Sun
Height	15-30 cm
Garden Spacing	20-36 cm

DESCRIPTION

Uniform habit and good branching makes this bench run, low energy input crop, a favorite of growers.



CONSUMER APPEAL

- Bright daisy-like flowers in yellows, purples and pinks set atop tough plants that offer early spring color.
- These Osteos have low water requirements once established in containers and beds.
- When trimmed in the garden in late spring, the flowers will flush again for a colorful fall display.

GARDEN ATTRIBUTES

- Can tolerate full sun and drier garden beds. Works very well in coastal regions.
- Daisy-like flowers help to attract pollinators.
- Aside from containers and hanging baskets, these African daisies work well in landscape borders and rock gardens.

NATIVITY

Africa



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