

ANNUAL  
PROPAGATION

# OSTEOSPERMUM MARGARITA

*Osteospermum fruticosum*



## TRAY & ROOTING

Form	<b>Vegetative Cutting (URC)</b>
Rooting Hormone?	<b>Yes</b>
Tray Size	<b>72, 84, 105</b>
Plants Per Cell	<b>1</b>
Days In Mist	<b>9-12</b>
Wks. From Stick To Transplant	<b>3-4</b>
Propagation Pinch?	<b>Optional</b>
Weeks To Pinch	<b>3-4</b>

## FERTILITY

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

## TEMPERATURE

Average Soil Temp	<b>68-72°F (20-22°C)</b>
Average Air Temp (Day)	<b>68-72°F (20-22°C)</b>
Average Air Temp (Night)	<b>60-65°F (16-18°C)</b>

## IRRIGATION

Irrigation Frequency	<b>Level 2: Allow media to dry moderately between irrigations</b>
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## LIGHT

Daylength Neutral?	<b>Yes</b>
Supplemental	<b>Optional</b>
Benefits From Shade?	<b>No</b>

## POTENTIAL DISEASES

Botrytis, Pythium, Powdery Mildew, Thaleveopsis

## POTENTIAL PESTS

Fungus Gnats, Thrips, Whiteflies, Aphids

## PGR SUGGESTIONS

- 2500ppm B-Nine (85% Daminozide)

## CULTIVAR LIST

Bronze Flare, Cool Purple, Dark Lilac, Dark Pink, Eclipse, Kardinal 2022, Lilac, Orange Flare, Pink Flare, Purple, White, White 2022, Yellow 2022



'Orange Flare'

## TIPS

- A well-aerated, well-drained rooting medium is essential.
- A rooting hormone application is suggested to increase speed and uniformity of rooting. A spray application of the rooting hormone Hortus IBA Water Soluble Salts (K-IBA) at 200 ppm the morning after sticking has shown good results and is easy to apply.
- After watering-in the cuttings, apply only enough mist to the leaves to prevent wilting of the cuttings. The mist should only wet the leaves and not the soil media. The mist should be warm as to not reduce the propagation temperature. Consistent bottom heat is crucial.
- It is extremely important to maintain pronounced moist and dry cycles. Liners will require less water at cooler greenhouse temperatures.

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FINISHING

# OSTEOSPERMUM MARGARITA

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CONTAINER SIZE	PLANTS PER POT	TRANSPLANT TO FINISH (WEEKS)
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**4 in. (10 cm)**                      **1**                      **10-13**

**Gallon (16 cm)**                      **1**                      **11-14**

**8 in. (19 cm) and up**                      **3-4**                      **12-15**

## FERTILITY

Fertilizer Rate                      **150-200 ppm N**

EC Range                      **Moderate: (2.0-3.5 mS via SME)**

pH Range                      **5.6-6.2**

## TEMPERATURE

Day Temperature                      **59-73°F (15-23°C)**

Night Temperature                      **44-55°F (7-13°C)**

## IRRIGATION

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

## LIGHT

Daylength Neutral?                      **Yes**

Optimum Light Level                      **5,000-8,000 fc (53,800-86,100 lux)**

Supplemental                      **None**

Benefits From Shade?                      **No**

## PINCHING

Finishing Pinch?                      **Yes**

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

## POTENTIAL DISEASES

Botrytis, Pythium, Powdery Mildew, Thaleaveopsis

## POTENTIAL PESTS

Thrips, Whiteflies, Aphids

## PGR SUGGESTIONS

- Drench application of 0.5-1.0ppm Topflor (flurprimidol)
- 2500-4000ppm B-Nine (85% Daminozide) alone or as a tank mix with 750-1000ppm Cycocel (11.8% Chlormequat) as a tank mix



'White'

## 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 and create a full plant with numerous buds.

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## FEATURES AND BENEFITS

# OSTEOSPERMUM MARGARITA

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### KEY INFORMATION

Primary Common Name	<b>African Daisy</b>
Consumer Watering Instructions	<b>Water thoroughly when top 1 inch (3cm) of soil is dry.</b>
Bloom Time	<b>Blooms Spring to Summer</b>
Exposure	<b>Full Sun</b>
Height	<b>12-16 inches (30-41 cm)</b>
Garden Spacing	<b>12-16 inches (30-41 cm)</b>

### 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.
- Well 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 well in coastal regions.
- Daisy like flowers help attract pollinators.
- Aside from containers and hanging baskets, these African daisies work well in landscape borders and rock gardens.

### NATIVITY

Africa



'Lilac'



'Pink Flare'

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