

syngenta flowers

Marigold Antigua[™] Culture Guide

Botanical name: *Tagetes erecta* Product form: Seed

Containers: Packs, Pints, Quarts, Gallons, Hanging Baskets

Habit: Upright

Garden Specifications

Garden Height: 10–12" (25–30 cm) tall **Garden Width:** 10–12" (25–30 cm) wide

Exposure: Full sun

USDA zone: 10

AHS zone: 12–1

Product use: Packs, Containers, Hanging Baskets, Landscapes, Patio Pots, Combos

<u>Germination</u>

Stages 1 & 2

Germination time: 3–5 days

Media temp: 72–75 °F (22–24 °C)

Chamber: Optional

Light: Not required for germination

Seed cover: Yes

Moisture level: 5 - SATURATED: Soil is dark brown and shiny, free water is present at the surface of the soil, water drips freely from the bottom of the tray, and trays are heavy with a visible bend in the middle.

Rec. tray size: 288-cell tray

Seeds per cell: 1

Young Plant Production

Stages 3 & 4

Temperature

Day: 68-70 °F (20-21 °C)

Night: 68–70 °F (20–21 °C)

Average daily temperature: 69 °F (21 °C) Lighting

Day extension lighting: Not necessary Light intensity: 2,000–2,500 foot candles (400–500 micro mols)

Day length response: Facultative short day **Daily light integral:** 10–12 mols/day

Media pH: 6.1-6.5

Media EC: SME 0.5 to 0.75 mS/cm Fertilizer: 75–125 ppm N

Moisture level: Media should be allowed to dry between irrigations. Alternate between moisture level 3 and 4. **3 - MOIST:** Soil is brown in color, strongly squeezing the soil will extract a few drops of water, and trays are light with no visible bend.

4 - WET: Soil is dark brown but not shiny, no free water is seen at the surface of the soil, when pressed or squeezed water drips easily, and trays are heavy with a visible bend in the middle.

Pinching: No

Plant growth regulators (PGRs): Usually not needed. If necessary spray with B-Nine[®] WSG at 1,500–2,500 ppm to control stem elongation.

Plug grow time: 4–5 weeks in a 288-cell tray **Comments:** Easy to germinate on the bench. Maintain media pH above 6.2 to avoid iron/manganese toxicity. Short days will shorten time to flower.

Finishing

Temperature

Day: 68–70 °F (20–21 °C) **Night:** 58–60 °F (14–16 °C)

Average daily temperature: 64 °F (18 °C) Lighting

Day extension lighting: Not necessary Light intensity: 4,000–6,000 foot candles Day length response: Facultative short day Daily light integral: 12–14 mols/day

Transplanting: Transplant directly into the finished container. Place the rooting media slightly below the level of media in the container. Make sure that the root ball is covered and that the plug is situated in the center of the pot.

Media EC: SME EC: 0.9–1.3 mS/cm, PourThru EC: 1.4–2.0 mS/cm

Fertilizer: 125–175 ppm N

Pinching: No. Pinching is not recommended or needed.

Plant growth regulators (PGRs): Usually not required, especially when finished during short days. If necessary under low light or high temperature/humidity conditions spray with B-Nine[®] WSG at 5,000 ppm before buds are wider than 1 cm (pea size). Later PGR sprays may reduce flower size or cause flowering in the foliage.

Tech tip: Stretched plugs can be buried if necessary. Maintain media pH above 6.2 to avoid iron/manganese toxicity. Short days will shorten time to flower.

CHRYSAL Try Chrysal Alesco®, a postharvest foliar spray, to protect ethylene sensitive ALESCO crops during shipping and retail

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Common pests: Spider mites, Thrips, Leafminers, Aphids, Whiteflies **Common diseases:** Alternaria leaf spot, Botrytis, Pythium.

<u>Scheduling</u>

Size	Crop Time	Plants Per Pot
Large Packs	6–7 weeks	1 ррр
1.0 pint (4 inch)	6–7 weeks	1 ррр
1.0 quart (4.5 to 5 inch)	7–8 weeks	1 ррр
1.25 to 2.5 quart (5.5 to 6.5 inch, trade gallon)	7–8 weeks	1–3 ррр
1.5 gallon hanging basket (10 inch basket)	7–8 weeks	3–5 ррр

Estimated finish crop time is from transplant of a 288-cell tray and finished at an average daily temperature (ADT) of 64 °F (18 °C).

Example crop schedule for a 1.0 pint

Weeks From Transplant	Description	
3 weeks	Apply plant growth regulators (PGRs) if necessary	
7 weeks	Ready to ship	



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