

Breeze™ Bacopa

Propagation

- Bacopa should be turgid when planted. This may require rehydration of cuttings prior to sticking.
- Choose a well-drained medium with an EC of 0.75 to 0.80 mmhos and a pH of 5.6 to 5.9.
- Stick cuttings immediately upon arrival. Cuttings should not be stored overnight.
- A protective fungicide application should be made within 24 hrs. of sticking.
- Soil temperature should be maintained at 68 to 74°F (20 to 23°C) until roots are visible.
- Once roots are visible, mist should be reduced as quickly as possible to allow the media to begin to dry.
- Rooted cuttings should be watered early in the day to avoid wet foliage during the night.
- Begin fertilization with 75 to 100 ppm N when roots become visible. Increase to 150 to 200 ppm N as roots develop.
- As the rooted cuttings develop, high light and moderate air temperatures should eliminate the need for chemical plant growth regulators (PGR).
- **Breeze** Bacopa does not require pinching during propagation. However, to improve branching and improve habit, plants can be pinched 7 to 10 days before transplanting.
- Bacopa rooted cuttings should be ready for transplanting 21 to 24 days after sticking.

Growing On to Finish

Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium with a pH of 5.3 to 5.8.

Temperature

- Nights: 55 to 60°F (13 to 16°C)
- Days: 65 to 75°F (18 to 24°C)
- Cool night temperatures will create maximum branching, darkest foliage color and the best possible habit.

Light

- Keep light intensities at 4,000 to 8,000 f.c. (40,000 to 80,000 Lux).
- Low light levels promote poor branching, stem stretch and reduce flowering.
- **Breeze** Bacopa are daylength neutral and will flower year-round.

Watering

- **Breeze** Bacopa are susceptible to root diseases if over-watered. Allow the media to dry slightly between watering but wilt should be avoided.
- Plants should be watered early enough in the day to avoid wet foliage during the night.

Fertilizer

- Use constant feed at 200 ppm N, with additional iron as needed.
- A full complement of minor elements should be provided.
- Leach regularly to avoid the buildup of high soluble salt levels.
- Test soil regularly for high pH/iron deficiency.

Pinching

Pinch plants 7 to 14 days after transplanting, as needed, to improve basal branching. A 4-in. (10-cm) crop can be produced with no pinch if necessary.

Controlling Growth

- Use high light and moderate temperatures to control growth.
- **Breeze** Bacopa will generally flower and be saleable well before any plant growth regulators are needed.
- Bacopa is highly responsive to Florel when used to improve branching and eliminate early flowering. A rate of 300 to 500 ppm, applied 1 to 2 times, should be used as a guideline.
- These recommendations for plant growth regulators should be used only as general guidelines. Growers must trial all chemicals under their particular conditions.

Common Problems

Insects: Aphids, thrips, whitefly, fungus gnats.

Diseases: *Botrytis*, *Rhizoctonia*, *Pythium*.

All **Breeze** Bacopa cuttings are derived from culture and virus-indexed stock from the **Ball Certified Plants®** program.

Problems	Causes
Plant collapse	Wet media for an extended period (<i>Pythium</i>) <i>Rhizoctonia</i> due to planting too deep
Delayed flowering	Low light levels Excessive Florel application
Excessive vegetative growth	High ammonia concentration in the soil Over-fertilization under low light conditions Low light and over-watering; wet media
Poor branching	Low fertilization; lack of nitrogen
Stretched plants	Low light
Chlorosis	Iron deficiency High pH Nitrogen deficiency

Breeze Bacopa Crop Schedule & Uses

(Crop Schedule In Weeks)

	4-In. (10-Cm) Pot 1 PP*	6-In. (15-Cm) Pot 1–2 PP*	10-In. (25-Cm) Pot 3–4 PP*
Unrooted cuttings	10–13	11–14	12–15
Rooted cuttings	5–7	7–10	8–11

*PP: Plants per pot or basket

Note: Growers should use the information presented here as a starting point. Crop times will vary depending on the climate, location, time of year and greenhouse environmental conditions.

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