

<b>Cultural Information for:</b>	Gypsophila Gypsy	Annual
<b>Common Name:</b>	Baby's Breath	
<b>Botanical Name:</b>	Gypsophila muralis	
<b>Seed Count:</b>	700,000 /ounce	25,000 / gram
<b>Optimum Germination Temperature:</b>	68°F / 20°C	
<b>Optimum Growing Temperature:</b>	58-60°F / 15°C	

## Plug Culture – 4 weeks (288 / 12 x 24 tray)

**Stage One** (days 1-5) Multi sow plug trays with 8-10 seeds per cavity filled with a sterile and well drained media. Optimum pH is 5.5-6.5. Lightly cover the seed with coarse vermiculite only as seeds require light to germinate. Maintain a temperature of 68°F/20°C. Multi-seed pellets are available to facilitate sowing.

**Stage Two** (days 6-13) After seedlings emerge lower the temperature to 58-60°F/15-16°C and place seedlings in a bright and well-ventilated area. For best results, especially Gypsy White, provide a minimum of 3,500 f.c./38,000 lux or supplement with HID lighting. Fertilize with 75 ppm N to promote strong growth.

**Stage Three** (days 14-24) Maintain plants at 58-60°F/15°C and fertilize at 150 ppm N using a well balanced calcium nitrate based formulation. Optimum EC level is 1.0-1.2 mmhos (2:1 slurry). It is best to water early in the day to prevent botrytis.

**Stage Four** (days 25-30) The plugs are approaching transplant stage. Reduce fertilizer to prepare the plants for transition to the final container.

## Transplanting:

**Media:** Use a well-drained sterile media with a pH between 5.5–6.5.

**Pots:** Gypsophila is suited for cell packs, 4 inch/10 cm. pots, hanging baskets or as a component in mixed containers and baskets.

**Fertilizer:** Use of a well balanced calcium nitrate based fertilizer at 150 ppm N produces strong and healthy plants. Optimum E.C. level is 1.2 mmhos (2:1 slurry).

**Watering:** Flowering is promoted if the media is allowed to dry in between water applications. Keeping the plants on the dry side is a good finishing strategy. Abundant watering and fertilizer promotes new vegetative growth which covers over the new flowers, whereas drought stress promotes compact plants with flowers covering the plant.

**Temperature:** Optimum growing temperature is 58-60°F/15°C, but plants tolerate higher temperatures. Higher temperatures, especially >86°F/30°C, will reduce flowering.

**Light:** Gypsophila does best in full sun in cool summer areas or partial sun in warm summer areas.

**Plant Growth Regulation:** Gypsophila Gypsy is naturally compact and does not require chemical growth regulation.

**Pests:** Aphids

**Diseases:** Botrytis, rhizoctonia and pythium

## Scheduling:

Container	Weeks from sowing
Cell pack	8-9 weeks
4 inch pots	12-13 weeks
Hanging baskets	16 weeks

**Note:** Adding osmocote to outdoor pots will maintain the fertilizer level during rainy periods.

**Culture Watch Point:** Gypsy White is naturally more compact than Gypsy Deep Rose and Gypsy Pink; especially when grown under lower light conditions. Outdoors under high light and warm temperatures Gypsy White will match the habit of Deep Rose and Pink. Gypsy Deep Rose and Pink feature double flowers and Gypsy White features single flowers.