



Swizzle™  
Cherry & Ivory

syngenta®flowers

# Zinnia Swizzle™

## Culture Guide

**Botanical name:** *Zinnia elegans*

**Product form:** Seed

**Containers:** Pints, Quarts, Gallons

**Habit:** Upright

### Garden Specifications

**Garden Height:** 12–14" (30–35 cm) tall

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

**Exposure:** Full sun

**USDA zone:** 10

**AHS zone:** 12–1

**Product use:** Containers, Landscapes, Patio Pots, Combos

### Germination

Stages 1 & 2

**Germination time:** 1 day

**Media temp:** 70–75 °F (21–24 °C)

**Chamber:** No

**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:** 72–74 °F (22–23 °C)

**Night:** 66–68 °F (19–20 °C)

**Average daily temperature:** 71 °F (22 °C)

#### **Lighting**

**Day extension lighting:** Not necessary

**Light intensity:** 3,000–3,500 foot candles (600–700 micro mols)

**Day length response:** Facultative short day

**Daily light integral:** 12–14 mols/day

**Media pH:** 5.5–5.9

**Media EC:** SME 0.5 to 0.75 mS/cm

**Fertilizer:** 50–75 ppm N

**Moisture level:** Media should be allowed to dry between irrigations. Alternate between moisture level 2 and 4.

**2 - MEDIUM:** Soil is light brown in color, no water can be extracted from soil, and soil will crumble apart.

**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):** Spray with B-Nine® WSG at 2,500 ppm when the cotyledons have expanded and the first true leaf is starting to show.

**Plug grow time:** 2–3 weeks in a 288-cell tray

**Comments:** Transplant Zinnias on time. Stress in the plug can lead to premature flowering.

### Finishing

#### **Temperature**

**Day:** 74–76 °F (23–24 °C)

**Night:** 62–64 °F (17–18 °C)

**Average daily temperature:** 69 °F (20 °C)

#### **Lighting**

**Day extension lighting:** Beneficial to 14 hours

**Light intensity:** 4,000–6,000 foot candles

**Day length response:** Facultative short day

**Daily light integral:** 14–16 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 pH:** 5.5–5.9

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

**Fertilizer:** 200–250 ppm N

**Pinching:** No. Pinching is not recommended or needed.

**Plant growth regulators (PGRs):** Spray with B-Nine® WSG at 2,500–5,000 ppm 1–3 times depending on container size and environmental conditions. Start PGR applications early—about one week after transplant. To prevent late flower stem stretch drench with Bonzi® at 1–2 ppm when flowers start to show color.

**Tech tip:** Extending the day length during short days to 14 hours will help ensure the first flowers will be fully double. Do not overwater—Zinnias are susceptible to root rot diseases. Growing at lower than recommended temperatures can also lead to root disease issues. Proper air circulation will help reduce the likelihood of Powdery mildew infections.

## Scheduling

Size	Crop Time	Plants Per Pot
1.0 pint (4 inch)	7–8 weeks	1 ppp
1.0 quart (4.5 to 5 inch)	7–8 weeks	1 ppp
1.25 to 2.5 quart (5.5 to 6.5 inch, trade gallon)	7–8 weeks	2–3 ppp
3.0 quart to 2.0 gallon (7.5 to 10 inch)	7–8 weeks	3–4 ppp

Estimated finish crop time is from transplant of a 288-cell tray and finished at an average daily temperature (ADT) of 69 °F (20 °C).

## Example crop schedule for a 2.5 quart

Weeks From Transplant	Description
2 weeks	Spray with B-Nine® WSG at 2,500–5,000 ppm
4 weeks	If needed, spray with B-Nine® WSG at 2,500–5,000 ppm
6 weeks	If needed, spray with B-Nine® WSG at 2,500–5,000 ppm
8 weeks	Drench with Bonzi® at 1–3 ppm to prevent late flower stem stretch; ready to ship



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**Moisture level:** Media should be allowed to dry between irrigations. Alternate between moisture level 1 and 3.

**1 - DRY:** Soil is tan to gray in color, trays are extremely light, and soil pulls away from sides of container.

**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.

**Common pests:** Aphids, Whiteflies, Thrips

**Common diseases:** Powdery mildew, Botrytis, Bacterial leaf spot, Alternaria leaf spot



Swizzle™ Cherry & Ivory and Scarlet & Yellow

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