Doronicum orientale LITTLE LEO

Culture guide
Uses: flowering pots, perennial beds
Exposure: Sun - Partial shade
Garden height: 10" / 25 cm
Crop time: 10-12 months
Sow time: 7 for flower naturally in 4-5 or force for earlier flowering pot sales.
Sowing method: 1-2 seeds per plug
Germination: 14-21 days at temperatures of 68-72 °F (20-22 °C).
Stage II (4 weeks) at 70-72 °F (19-21 °C).
Stage III & IV (3 weeks) at 65-68 °F (18-19 °C). Feed 100 ppm nitrogen weekly as needed.
Growing On: Transplant plugs after 10 weeks to larger plug or small pot. Once established, vernalize for 8-10 weeks.
Sol:
Use a well-drained, growing perennial substrate with 0-15 % clay, 0-15 % organic parts (e.g. bark, wood fibres),1-1,5 kg/m³ complete balanced fertilizer, 2-3 kg/m³ slow release fertilizer (3-9 months), iron-chelate, micronutrients, pH: 6.0-6.5. Field: sandy, loamy soils. Standard fertilization: 50-60 g/m2 slow-release fertilizer.
Temperature:
Grow at 10-12 °C or outdoors. In winter indoors frost free at 3-5 °C or outdoors. Outdoor fleece cover needed. Plants kept through the winter start to grow mid-December for 6-8 weeks at 5 °C in greenhouse and later the temperature can be slowly to 8-10 °C. This treatment can hinder the stretching of the flower stems is inhibited. After a frost-free wintering the plants can be cultivated at temperature of 8-10°C immediately. Warm temperatures of 15-18 °C will decrease the cultivation time (7-8 weeks in total).
Fertilization:
Moderate-high fertilization levels are required. Fertilize the crop weekly with 130-150 ppm nitrogen (at 3 kg/m³ slow-release fertilizer in substrate), using alternate a calcium nitrate fertilizer and a potassium balanced fertilizer (N: K2O-ratio: 1:1,5). Avoid high ammonium and high nitrogen

levels. Don’t fertilize after mid-September. In spring fertilize 130-150 ppm

nitrogen of a complete balanced fertilizer. Prevent magnesium deficiency by applying magnesium sulphate (0,05 %) 1-2 times and in case of iron deficiency (above pH 6.0) apply iron-chelate for 1-2 times. The roots are sensitive to high salt levels in substrates. Avoid high fertilizer concentrations, it is advisable to fertilize several times with low concentrations weekly. Field: If necessary, according to analysis, improve the soil with 60-80 g/m² of a slow release fertilizer, applied in March and July in several portions.
Check the iron level in the soil.

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