Veronica spicata Rose

Speedwell

Culture guide

Uses:
Excellent plants for rock garden and heath garden, container plants, attractive for insects,
Exposure:
Sun - Partial shade
Garden height:
24" / 60 cm
Crop time:
8-10 months
Sow time:
January-April for green pots, June-August for flowering in pots the following year
Sowing method:
3-5 seeds per plug, can be sown directly into final pot
Germination:
Germinates in 14-21 days at 68-72 °F (20-22 °C). Light is required for germination.
Growing On:
Transplant plugs after 5 weeks. Grow on at 60-65 °F (15-18 °C). Vernalization is required for flower initiation.
Media:
Use a well-drained, growing substrate with 15-30 % clay, 0-20 % parts (e.g. bark, wood fibres, sand), 1,5-3 kg/m³ complete balanced fertilizer, 0-2 kg/m³ slow release fertilizer (3-9 months), iron-chelate, micronutrients, pH: 5.8-7.5. Field: humus, loamy sandy soils with good drainage. Standard fertilization: 60-80 g/m² of a slow release fertilizer.
Temperature:
Grow at 12-18 °C during daytime and at 10-13 °C during night. Cultivation outdoors is possible. In winter indoors frost free at 3-5 °C or outdoors. Outdoors fleece cover or mulch cover needed. In spring the plants start to grow for 6-8 weeks at 15-18 °C. Cold temperatures of 8-13 °C will increase the cultivation time. A chilling period (vernalization) for 10 weeks at 5 °C is required for flower initiation. Veronica can also be brought to flower earlier at 10-12 °C in polytunnel.
Fertilization:
Moderate fertilization levels are required. Fertilize the crop weekly with 100-150 ppm nitrogen (at 2 kg/m³ slow release fertilizer in substrate), using a complete balanced fertilizer. Avoid high ammonium and high nitrogen levels. Don't fertilize after mid September. In spring fertilize 100-150 ppm nitrogen of a potassium balanced fertilizer (N: K2O-ratio: 1:1,5). Prevent magnesium deficiency by applying magnesium sulphate (0,05 %) 1-2 times and in case of iron deficiency apply iron-chelate for 1-2 times. Field: If necessary according to analysis, improve the soil with 60-80 g/m² of a slow release fertilizer, applied in several portions. Take care of a good micronutrition supply.

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