

Osteospermum x hybrida

Cape Daisy®



SAKATA®

The market leading series with the widest range available. Our Cape Daisy® series features core main colours as well as unique novelties to differentiate your assortment from the mainstream production. Cape Daisy®, more than 20 years the original and best!



- * Robust, compact plant habit
- * Core colours and novelties with large flowers in a range of intense colours
- * Mounding habit with good greenhouse and garden performance
- * Tolerates a wide range of production conditions
- * Simple Daisy flowers are a consistent consumer favourite
- * Ideal for production in 12-15 cm pots as well as patio planters and mixed containers



Annual



Cuttings



Patio, bedding



Upright-mounding



40 cm



Full sun - half shade



30 cm



10,5-15 cm

Culture Guide

Propagation

Propagation takes 3-4 weeks: Stick in pre-moistened and well-drained rooting media. Be careful not to over saturate the media as this will result in poor and uneven rooting. Ideal pH is 5.5-6.2. Make sure cuttings are vegetative with no flower buds induced in the heart of the cutting. Cuttings with induced flower buds will not produce acceptable quality young plants. Osteospermum is fairly easy to root but to ensure a fast and even rooting, the use of a rooting hormone is advised. Propagate at 18-20°C. Especially in the first 2 weeks cuttings are sensitive to drying out. Therefore maintain a relatively high humidity at 95-98%. Osteospermum roots in approximately 12-14 days. Start to harden off as soon as cuttings have started to root to avoid stretching of young plants. Provide fertilizer at a low concentration. Ideally, lower the temperature and increase light levels to ensure compact and well-branched young plants. If needed, a spray with a PGR like Cycocel can be applied to keep the young plants compact.

Pack & Pot Culture

In general

Osteospermum should be ready for transplanting 20-25 days after sticking. Yellow and Terracotta colours might need a few days more to be fully rooted. In order to have uniform plants at point of transplanting, it is possible to stick Yellow/Terracotta colours a few days earlier than other colours. Do not delay transplanting as this can result in undesirable stretching. Ideally, pinch young plants 5-8 days after transplanting. It is also possible to pinch young plants before transplanting, however, the best and most reliable option is to pinch after transplanting, once roots are at the bottom of the pot.

Media

Transplant in well-aerated medium. Optimum pH for Osteospermum is 5.5-6.5 and starting with an EC at 0.75 ms (1:2 slurry).

Temperature

In North-West Europe, growers basically use two different ways:

- Start plants mid-Autumn and grow cold 3-5°C for finished plants ready in Spring
- Start plants from December-February and grow at 12-15°C for finished plants ready over a longer period in Spring. In Southern Europe, many plants are grown outside and nature dictates the temperature. In most cases this means rather cold but higher light levels compared to North-West Europe. Plants grown colder are harder and stronger and often have more flower buds than plants grown warmer. On the other hand, they have greater tendency for flowering in flush compared

with warmer grown plants. The induction of flowers in Osteospermum is controlled by lower temperatures. For good flower induction, plants need to be exposed to lower temperatures (below 12-14°C) for at least 2 weeks. Temperature drops of approx. 6 hours during night time are often enough to induce flowers even if day temperature is higher.

Fertilizer

To establish a good plant with a strong root system, make sure not to over-saturate the growing media. This also prevents fungal diseases. Allow the media to dry out a little between irrigations in order to establish a stronger root system, but do not allow excessive drying. The latter results in damaged foliage and flowers. Feed with a well-balanced fertilizer that includes micro-elements. The following fertilizer constituents are recommended: N = 100, P = 15, K = 114, Ca = 51, Mg = 15 + micro-elements. Monitor EC level, ideal for Osteo is 2.0-2.3 (1:2 slurry). Ideal pH should be between 5.5-6.5. High pH may result in yellowing of foliage due to iron deficiency. Varieties with yellow, orange and terracotta flowers are more sensitive to this.

Lighting

While Osteospermum is not photoperiodically sensitive, it prefers bright light. Bright light contributes to a compact plant habit, fast flowering and better flower quality. Use of supplemental light (14-16 hours, beginning at midnight) is beneficial for early Spring flowering.

Growth regulators

Depending on the temperature conditions, Cape Daisy may need PGR treatment to control the habit and the production of a good quality product. Cycocel is the preferred PGR to use for Osteospermum. As shown in the attribute guide there is some variation between the varieties that need to be taken in consideration before applying PGR.

Pests & diseases

In general Osteospermum is not very susceptible to pests and diseases, but Aphids, Thrips, Botrytis, root and stem rots can be a problem.

Crop schedule

Production time for Cape Daisy is highly dependable on the culture and temperature regime chosen. Expect a production time of 12-13 weeks when plants are grown at 12-15°C. If grown colder production time will increase. Space plants when foliage begin to touch neighbouring plants. Do not delay spacing, delay will easily result in stretched plants.

Space Recommendation:

10.5-12 cm: 35-40 plants/m²

14-17 cm: 18-24 plant/m²

All information given is intended for general guidance only and is believed to be accurate. Cultural details are based on Northern Hemisphere conditions and Sakata cannot be held responsible for any crop damage related to the information given herein. Application of recommended growth regulators and chemicals are subject to local legislations and manufacturer's label instructions.

Attribute guide of Cape Daisy

Series	Variety	For 6 packs	10-13 cm pot	14-17 cm pot	Plant habit	Branching	Need of PGR	Earliness	Flower diameter	Remarks
Cape Daisy	Antique Rose	No	Yes	No	Mounded	+	=	=	+	
Cape Daisy	Eye Catcher Purple	No	Yes	Yes	Erect-mounded	=	=	=	=	
Cape Daisy	Fire Burst	Yes	Yes	Yes	Mounded	=	-	-	+	longer flowerstems
Cape Daisy	Ivory	No	Yes	Yes	Mounded	=	=	=	+	longer flowerstems
Cape Daisy	Lavender Blue NEW	No	Yes	Yes	Mounded	+	=	=	=	
Cape Daisy	Magic Sunrise	Yes	Yes	Yes	Mounded	=	=	=	=	longer flowerstems
Cape Daisy	Maseru	Yes	Yes	Yes	Flat-mounded	=	-	+	=	longer flowerstems
Cape Daisy	Orange Sorbet	No	Yes	No	Erect-mounded	-	=	-	=	longer flowerstems
Cape Daisy	Pink Bicolour NEW	No	Yes	Yes	Erect-mounded	+	=	=	=	
Cape Daisy	Purple	No	Yes	No	Mounded	-	=	+	=	
Cape Daisy	Purple Illumination	No	Yes	Yes	Erect-mounded	+	+	=	=	
Cape Daisy	Softly Pink	No	Yes	Yes	Erect-mounded	+	+	-	+	
Cape Daisy	Spring Bouquet	No	Yes	Yes	Erect-mounded	+	=	+	=	
Cape Daisy	Sunglow	No	Yes	Yes	Mounded	=	=	-	=	
Cape Daisy	Terra	No	Yes	Yes	Mounded	=	=	-	+	longer flowerstems
Cape Daisy	Terracotta	No	Yes	Yes	Erect-mounded	=	=	-	=	
Cape Daisy	Violet	No	Yes	Yes	Mounded	+	=	=	-	
Cape Daisy	White	Yes	Yes	Yes	Mounded	+	-	=	=	Plant adapts to pot size. Also suitable for small pots fitting Zanzibar
Cape Daisy	Yellow Halo	No	Yes	Yes	Erect-mounded	=	+	-	=	
							Excellent +	Much +	Early +	Large +
							Good =	Medium =	Medium =	Medium =
							Medium -	Little -	Late -	Small -
* Attribute guide based on North-West European conditions										
** Earliness can differ from culture, cold or warm culture. Indication in the attribute guide is an average over the complete season.										
*** Branching is indicated within the series										