

Mecardonia Magic Carpet™



SAKATA®

A tough, durable plant that is loaded with a continuous supply of bright yellow flowers all season long. Magic Carpet features a semi-mounding habit that is eye-catching at retail. Because it is both frost and heat tolerant, it is an ideal season extender for early and late sales.

- * Extremely early to bloom
- * Bright yellow blooms blanket plants all season long
- * Durable along garden paths, in high traffic areas and between pavers
- * Superb in baskets and as a component plant in mixed containers
- * Versatile in production - can be produced in any size from 6 pack up to hanging baskets



Annual



Cuttings



Patio, bedding,
mix containers,
hanging baskets



Mounding - spreading



15-20 cm



Full sun - shade



20-25 cm



6 packs, 9-10.5 cm pots,
hanging baskets

Culture Guide

Propagation

Propagation takes around 5-6 weeks. Stick cuttings in pre-moistened rooting media with a pH of 5.8-6.2. Use media with good drainage. Maintain temperatures at 18°C. Magic Carpet is easy and roots fast. Therefore, rooting hormones should not be required. Reduce temperature to 16-18°C 10-12 days after roots emerged in order to avoid undesired stretching of young plants. Applications of PGR (such as Alar) can be helpful to avoid stretching of young plants. Pinching is recommended to get a more bushy young plant.

Pack & Pot Culture

- Media** Select a sterile, well-aerated mix with 5-15% porosity. EC <0.75. The optimum pH range is 5.8 to 6.2.
- Temperature** Establish the crop at an average daily temperature of 18° C. Once established, grow at 14-16°C days and 12-14 at night. Provide good air circulation and a relative humidity below 70% to prevent Botrytis.
- Fertilizer** Avoid excessive irrigation throughout production. Commence fertilizing 2 weeks after transplanting, with a complete, balanced fertilizer at 150-200 ppm Nitrogen (constant liquid feed). Maintain the media pH at 5.8-6.2 and target the EC level at 1.0. A slow release fertilizer is an option; especially for outdoor production where heavy Summer rains are common. In addition, a slow release may provide improved performance for the consumer. Provide periodic clear water applications if excess soluble salts accumulate.
- Lighting** Bright light is ideal for this crop. For best results provide a minimum of 54,000 lux (970 $\mu\text{mol/s/m}^2$), and shade above 65,000 lux (1170 $\mu\text{mol/s/m}^2$). Mecardonia flowers at 10 + hours of photoperiod and 13°C. Longer days accelerate development.
- Growth regulators** Plant growth regulators should not be necessary with adequate light levels.
- Pests & diseases** Aphids, Fungus Gnats, slugs/snails, Botrytis (gray mold), root and stem rot.

Crop schedule	Container Size	Cuttings/Pot	Time from Transplant*
	10,5 cm	1	7-9 weeks
	15 cm	2-3	7-9 weeks
	20 cm	3-4	8-10 weeks
	Hanging Basket	5-6	10-12 weeks

* add 5 - 6 weeks of rooting time for total crop time

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.