

Product Description

Bouquet mums are creating excitement in the market place. The multicolored pot mums have the appeal of a floral bouquet and the added value of longer shelf life as a potted plant. Bouquet Mums are ideal anytime but especially for Easter, Mother's Day and Thanksgiving holiday sales to offer something unique and exciting for your customers. At Easter, they are so popular that they have their own name, "Easter Egg Bouquet Mums."

Basics are the Same

Bouquet Mums basic culture is the same as regular pot mums.

- Use a well-drained root medium.
- Stick or plant into root medium premoistened with 300 ppm nitrogen and potassium.
- Maintain root medium temperature at 65°F to 70°F until established.
- Maintain 80 to 100% relative humidity until established (no wilting).

- Pinch when ready, i. e. when roots are developed to sides and bottom of the pot and ¾" to 1" new growth has occurred. Spring crops are usually ready to pinch 12 to 14 days after planting. Fall crops usually require 15 to 18 days.

Use Variety Families

The Blush family of varieties are most commonly used for Bouquet Mums.

- Blush Family: Blush Apricot, Blush Dark Pink, Blush Orange, Blush Pink, Blush Sunny, Blush White and Blush Yellow.

The emergence of the Graceland family, with their large showy anemone flowers adds to your choices.

- Graceland Family (in 4 colors) Graceland White, Yellow, Pink and Coral

Disbudding or Center Bud removal?

In general, varieties that are suitable for either disbudding or center bud removal (e.g., the Blush and Graceland families) are ideally disbudded as Bouquet Mums.

Sample Combinations

Consider these or other combinations based on your own sense of color combinations. Use the principles of the color wheel to assist your choice.

- Easter and Mother's Day (Spring crops): Use the Blush and Graceland families: Blush Apricot, Blush Dark Pink, Blush Orange, Blush Pink, Blush Sunny, Blush White, Blush Yellow / Graceland White, Graceland Yellow, Graceland Pink, Graceland Coral.
- Thanksgiving (Fall crops): Use the Blush Family: Blush Orange, Blush Sunny or the Graceland Family: Graceland Yellow, Graceland Coral.

Crop Planning

Following are suggestions for arrangement of varieties. Plant variety groups around the edge of pots, using 1 cutting in center of pots greater than 6½". Other arrangements are possible; use your creativity!

Pot Size	Plants per Pot	Number of Cuttings and Varieties
6½"	5	1 each variety
6½"	5	2 one variety, 3 another variety
8"	7	1 each variety (1 in center)
8"	7	3 one variety (1 cutting in center), 2 each of 2 other varieties
10"	9	2 each of 3 varieties, 3 of one other variety (1 cutting in center)
10"	9	3 each of 3 varieties (1 cutting in center)

The following schedules can be used as a guide for sticking unrooted cuttings.

Plant a week later but start days (or lights off) as shown when planting rooted cuttings.

Spring (March-April-May) Flowerings			
		Blush Family	Graceland Family
Plant	Upon receipt	Feb 15	Feb 22
Lights On	At Planting	Feb 15	Feb 22
Pinch	When Ready	See text	See text
Short Days		Mar 08	Mar 08
Flower	8 weeks after short days begin	May 03	May 03

Fall (September-October-November) Flowerings			
		Blush Family	Graceland Family
Plant	Upon receipt	Aug 16	Aug 23
Lights On	At Planting	Aug 16	Aug 23
Pinch	When Ready	See text	See text
Lights Off		Sept 13	Sept 18
Flower	8 weeks after short days begin	Nov 08	Nov 08

Both families have an 8-week response. However, the Blush family are shorter growers than Graceland, and require one extra week of long days (lights) for adequate height.



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