

### What is it?

Vernalization: exposure for specific lengths of time to cold temperatures, required by some plants to initiate bud formation or new growth. It gives the plants a winter so they can have spring.

### How do we do it?

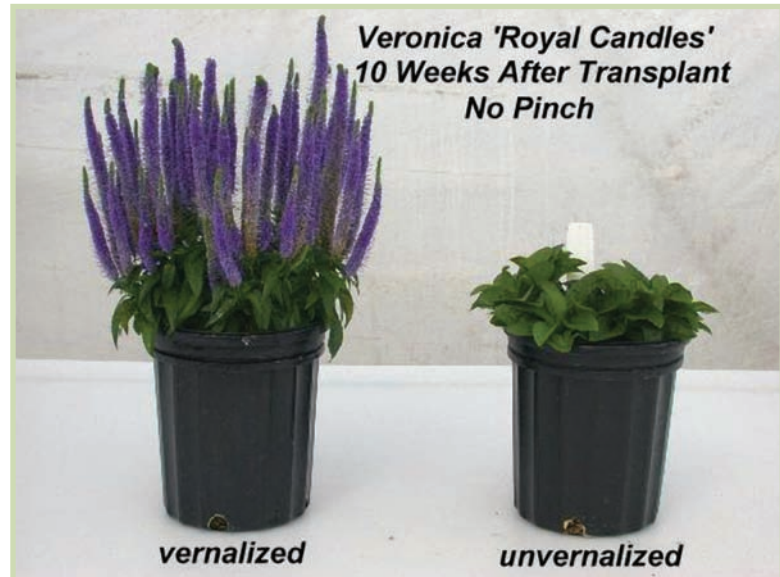
Starting the summer before you receive the plants, we perform specific cultural treatments that have been customized for each variety. For instance, some crops need to be grown at specific temperatures so that they root thoroughly before receiving cold treatment. For other varieties, we count the number of leaves on a plant every week to ensure that the plants have progressed past their juvenility phase. Otherwise, the plants will be unable to perceive the cold treatment that is needed to promote flowering. These actions ensure appropriate plant maturity and bulking prior to cooling, the best temperatures during transitional cooling, and correct duration and temperature of the final cold treatment to optimize performance post-transplant.

### Why do we do it?

To provide you with a liner that is programmed to flower fully the first season. Not just one or two skimpy blooms!

### How does this benefit you?

Shorter bench time, enhanced plant vigor, and faster flowering response. Plus a more uniform flower canopy and more color!



### What does a vernalized liner look like?

Although these plants may appear to be dead, they are simply sleeping and dormant. The healthy roots tell the story best, ignore the brown, dried tops. That's last year's news!

This year, through modifications to our program, we were able to maintain dormancy later into the season than in the past, so plants did not become "greenhouse tender" any earlier than necessary. The new growth of vernalized plants you received this season was probably less advanced than in prior years; less for you to worry about when placing the plants into a cool greenhouse or outside to grow on.



### Which varieties require vernalization?

*Monarda* and *Veronica* to name two. *Aquilegia* and *Phlox subulata* also require vernalization, but benefit from being planted in the fall and vernalized in their final container. Refer to the **VR** (vernalization required) or **VB** (vernalization beneficial) codes in our catalog, or contact Technical Support for more information or help with scheduling.

### When are vernalized liners available?

We offer vernalized liners in both a 72-cell and a 30-cell tray from week 5 through week 17. A few early flowering varieties have shorter shipping windows ending in late February to mid-March.

### How to order?

A limited number of better selling varieties will be produced in a 72-cell liner on speculation. All other vernalized liners are Grow to Order (GTO) only, with advance notice required. See the shaded prices in the Green Leaf Plants catalog for varieties in our speculative program.



Vernalized *Lavandula* (left) vs. unvernalized (right)



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