

# Aubrieta Axcen™

## Culture Guide



**Botanical name:** *Aubrieta hybrida*

**Product form:** Vegetative

**Containers:** Quarts, Gallons

**Habit:** Mounding

**Vernalization:** Required

Garden Specifications

**Garden Height:** 6–8" (15–20 cm) tall

**Garden Width:** 6–8" (15–20 cm) wide

**Exposure:** Full sun

**USDA zone:** 6–9

**AHS zone:** 9–6

**Product use:** Containers, Combos

Propagation of Unrooted Cuttings

**Root emergence:** 8–10 days

**Rooting hormone:** Recommended. Apply K-IBA Quick Dip of the basal end of the cutting at a rate of 500–1,000 ppm is recommended.

**Bottom heat temp.:** 70–72 °F (21–22 °C) for the first three weeks. After roots are well developed, temperatures can be lowered to hold and tone the cuttings.

**Misting:** Mist schedules vary depending on light and temperature conditions. Apply minimal moisture to rehydrate the cuttings and keep them from wilting. Cuttings should be hydrated and in a non-wilted stage within 24 hours after sticking. Tenting has also been shown to be beneficial when rooting Aubrieta. This keeps the humidity high without adding to much free water.

**Rec. tray size:** 105-cell (30 mm) or larger

**Propagation timing:** 5–6 weeks for a 105-cell plug; add more rooting time for significantly larger plug sizes.

**Temperature**

**Day:** 66–68 °F (19–20 °C)

**Night:** 64–66 °F (18–19 °C)

**Lighting**

**Day extension lighting:** Not necessary

**Light intensity:** 200–250  $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  for the first two weeks after sticking or until root development occurs. Light levels can be increased up to 600  $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  as rooting increases and the cutting matures.

**Day length response:** Day neutral



Axcen™ Deep Purple

**Daily light integral:** 4–6  $\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{d}^{-1}$  for the first two weeks after sticking or until root development occurs. DLI can be increased to greater than 12  $\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{d}^{-1}$  after root formation.

**Media pH:** 5.6–6.0

**Media EC:** SME EC: 0.9–1.3 mS/cm, PourThru EC: 1.4–2.0 mS/cm

**Fertilizer:** Begin fertilization at 50 ppm nitrogen when roots become visible. Rates can be increased up to 75 ppm nitrogen after roots become well developed. Use primarily Cal-Mag® Plus (calcium nitrate + magnesium nitrate + iron) fertilizers in propagation to prevent unwanted stretch.

**Pinching:** Not recommended

**Plant growth regulators (PGRs):** Normally not required. If needed, a spray of B-Nine® WSG (daminozide) at 500–1,500 ppm can be applied.

Bulking and Vernalization

**Vernalization:** Required

**Bulking**

**Bulking Time:** See Scheduling Section

**Temperature:** 64–66 °F (18–19 °C)

**Pinch:** No

**PGR:** Not Necessary

**Vernalization**

**Vernalization Time:** 7–8 weeks

**Temperature:** 45–50 °F (7–10 °C)

**Tech tip:** Before vernalization, plants should be well rooted, and the foliage should fill ½ to ⅓ of the overall pot diameter. Keep fertility on the low side, going into vernalization to avoid excess soft growth. This will decrease the chance of disease and allow room for growth during finishing.

## Finishing

### Temperature

**Day:** 66–68 °F (19–20 °C)

**Night:** 58–60 °F (14–16 °C)

**Average daily temperature:** 64 °F (18 °C)

### Lighting

**Day extension lighting:** Not necessary

**Light intensity:** 1,200–1,600  $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$

**Day length response:** Day neutral

**Daily light integral:** 14–16  $\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{d}^{-1}$

**Transplanting:** Transplant directly into the finished container. Place the rooting media slightly above the level of media in the container. Make sure the plug is situated in the center of the pot.

**Media pH:** 5.5–5.9

**Media EC:** SME EC: 1.5–2.1 mS/cm, PourThru EC: 2.3–3.2 mS/cm

**Fertilizer:** 75–125 ppm N

**Pinching:** No. Pinching is not recommended or needed.

**Plant growth regulators (PGRs):** If necessary, a spray of B-Nine® WSG at 2,500 ppm can be used to control height.

**Tech tip:** If possible, grow cool to help keep the plants compact and uniform. Make sure that pots are not too wet or waterlogged during production.



Try Chrysal Alesco®, a postharvest foliar spray, to protect ethylene sensitive crops during shipping and retail.

**Moisture level:** Media should be allowed to dry between irrigations. Alternate between moisture level 2 and 3.

**2 - MEDIUM:** Soil is light brown in color, no water can be extracted from soil, and soil will crumble apart.

**3 - MOIST:** Soil is brown in color, strongly squeezing the soil will extract a few drops of water, and trays are light with no visible bend.

**Common pests:** Aphids

**Common diseases:** Botrytis, Pythium, Rhizoctonia

## Scheduling

Size	Crop Time			Plants Per Pot
	Bulk	Vern.	Finish	
1.0 quart (4.5 to 5 inch)	5–6 weeks	7–8 weeks	5–6 weeks	1 ppp
1.25 to 2.5 quart (5.5 to 6.5 inch, trade gallon)	6–7 weeks	7–8 weeks	6–7 weeks	1 ppp

Estimated finish crop time is from transplant of a 105-cell tray and finished at an average daily temperature (ADT) of 64 °F (18 °C).

## Example crop schedule for a 2.5 quart

Weeks From Transplant	Description
1 week	Transplant one plug into the center of the pot
6 weeks	Start to lower the temperatures to begin the vernalization process
13 weeks	With vernalization complete, it is now time to increase the temperatures to a 64 °F (18 °C) ADT to force flowering
17 weeks	If needed, apply plant growth regulators (PGRs) to control size
21 weeks	Finish

Axcent™ Violet With Eye

