

## ***Lewisia cotyledon*** ***Special Mix***

Lewisia, Bitterroot

### ***Culture guide***

**Uses:**

Evergreen perennials for rock garden, pot plants

**Exposure:**

Partial shade

**Garden height:**

6" / 15 cm

**Crop time:**

8-10 months

**Sow time:**

January-March for green pots; June-August for flowering in pots the following year

**Sowing method:**

2-3 seeds per plug

**Germination:**

Yields best germination results if exposed to a period of cool temperatures before temperatures are raised to

60-65 °F (15-18 °C). Germinates in 3-6 weeks. Cover seed lightly with vermiculite after sowing.

**Growing On:**

Transplant plugs after 6 weeks. Grow on at 54-65 °F

(12-18 °C) in a well-drained, lime-free growing medium. Vernalization is required for flower initiation.

**Media:**

Use a well-drained, growing perennial substrate with 0-15 % clay, 0-20 % parts (e.g. bark, sand, perlite), 1-1,5 kg/m<sup>3</sup> complete balanced fertilizer, 0-2 kg/m<sup>3</sup> slow release fertilizer (3-9 months), iron-chelate, micronutrients, pH: 5.0-6.0.

**Temperature:**

Grow at 12-18 °C or outdoors. In winter indoors frost free at 3-5 °C or outdoors. Outdoor fleece cover needed. In spring the plants start to grow for 4-8 weeks at 15-18 °C. Cold temperatures at 7-14 °C will increase the cultivation time. A chilling period (vernalization) is required for flower initiation

**Fertilization:**

Low-moderate fertilization levels are required. Fertilize the crop weekly with 100-150 ppm nitrogen (at 2 kg/m<sup>3</sup> slow release fertilizer in substrate), using a complete balanced fertilizer. Avoid high ammonium and high nitrogen levels. Don't fertilize after mid September. In spring fertilize 100-150 ppm nitrogen of a complete balanced fertilizer. Prevent magnesium deficiency by applying magnesium sulphate (0,05 %) 1-2 times and in case of iron deficiency (above pH 6.0) apply iron-chelate for 1-2 times.