

Sagina subulata

Pearlwort, Irish Moos

Culture guide

Uses:

Cushion perennials for rock garden and graves, plants for dry stone walls and paving, ornamental leaf plants, ground cover plant

Exposure:

Sun - Partial shade

Garden height:

3" / 8 cm

Crop time:

13-15 weeks

Sow time:

February-March for flowering in pots from June onwards; Mid July-End August for flowering in pots the following year

Sowing method:

3-5 seeds per plug, directly sowing into final pots is possible

Germination:

Germinates in 10-14 days at 65-72 °F (18-22 °C). Light is required for germination.

Growing On:

Transplant plugs after 5 weeks. Grow on at 60-65 °F

(15-18 °C). Plants prefer cooler growing conditions.

Vernalization is not required for flower initiation.

Media:

Use a well-drained, growing perennial substrate with 0-15 % clay, 0-20 % parts (e.g. wood fibres, bark, sand, perlite) 1-1,5 kg/m³ complete balanced fertilizer, 0-2 kg/m³ slow release fertilizer (3-9 months), iron-chelate, micronutrients, pH: 5.5-7.0.

Temperature:

Grow at 12-15 °C or outdoors. In winter indoors frost free at 3-5 °C or outdoors. Outdoor fleece needed. For wintering the roots should be developed well in the pots. In spring the plants start to grow indoors from end of December onwards for 8-10 weeks at 15-18 °C. Cold temperatures of

8-12 °C will increase the cultivation time. Cold temperatures will increase the flowering time. Sagina does not tolerate hot temperatures.

Fertilization:

Low-moderate fertilization levels are required. Fertilize the crop weekly with 80-100 ppm nitrogen (at 2 kg/m³ 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 with 80-100 ppm nitrogen, using a potassium balanced fertilizer (N: K₂O-ratio: 1:1,5).

Prevent magnesium deficiency by applying magnesium sulphate (0,025 %) 1-2 times and in case of iron deficiency apply iron-chelate for 1-2 times.