

Outback Plants[®]

Brachyscome & Scaevola

Growing highlights:	Easy to grow Year-round production Performs very well during extended hot and humid periods Fast production cycle (10-14 weeks)
Plant type:	Annual
Uses:	Grower: pots, mixed planters and hanging baskets Consumer: gardens, rockeries, patio tubs, hanging baskets, and as a bedding plant

Approximate crop timing (mid season)

Flowering late Spring through Autumn.

Ball 84 to flowering	8-14 weeks. Note: this is average time for developing a well-formed flowering plant.
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Growing on:

Temperature	Greenhouse: Nights: 7 - 13°C (optimum) Days: 13 - 21°C (optimum) Outdoors: Avoid temperatures below -1°C. If temperatures fall below above level, plants should be grown under cover. Lower night temperatures will encourage flowering and a more compact shape.
pH	pH range slightly acidic, 5.5-6.5. Do not allow pH to go above 7 or below 5.
Media	Free draining and well aerated media with a good water holding capacity.
Water	EC below 1.0 mmhos. Avoid excess watering, especially when very young. Plants will die if allowed to dry out.

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Culture Information

Feeding	Slow release fertiliser is best. Liquid feeding low phosphorus 10:1.5 or similar. Plants may need extra iron in the form of Iron Sulphate to reduce yellowing. Application of liquid feed of 225 ppm nitrogen may be necessary to promote green young growth. Use clear water at least once per week.
Growth regulation	Pinch/prune to develop habit. For Brachyscome, prune back plants 50% after 4 weeks to develop a bushy habit.
Pack/Pot size	Scaevola: 10 – 11cm pot Brachyscome: 11cm pot or try 3 plugs in a 1 – 1.5 litre pot
Spacing	Space 15 - 18cm pots at 20 - 25cm centres if plants are very large after 8 - 10 weeks.
Advice	Keep plants at full natural sunlight at all times wherever possible. Areas with strong sunlight may need 30% shade over Summer. Preferable to keep humidity no higher than 70% and provide good air circulation.
Common pests	Aphids (leaf and root), Caterpillars – can damage flower stems. Scale insects, whitefly and Thrips.
Common diseases	Botrytis, Thielaviopsis.
Trouble Shooting:	<u>Solutions</u>
Slow growing:	Improve media aeration, reduce watering, look for root aphids and treat accordingly.
Yellowing of young growth	Check Iron and Magnesium levels. Application of Iron Chelates at 40 gm/5 l and/or Magnesium Sulphate at 20 gm/5 l is often beneficial.
Yellowing of lower leaves:	Check nitrogen levels

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