

# Culture Tips for Eustoma rusellianum



Lisianthus is native to desert areas but is not a true desert plant because it always had access to fresh water via its long tap root system.







# Native Habitat



# **Plug Tray**

• The deeper the plug cell the better owing to Lisianthus' tap root structure.



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### **Stage 1: Day 1-14**

- Do not cover the seed and supply enough moisture to disolve the pellet.
- If needed, a light cap of medium vermiculite helps maintain moisture.
- *pH 6.0-6.5*
- Optimum temperature is 68-70°F/20-21°C.





### **Stage 1: Days 1-14**

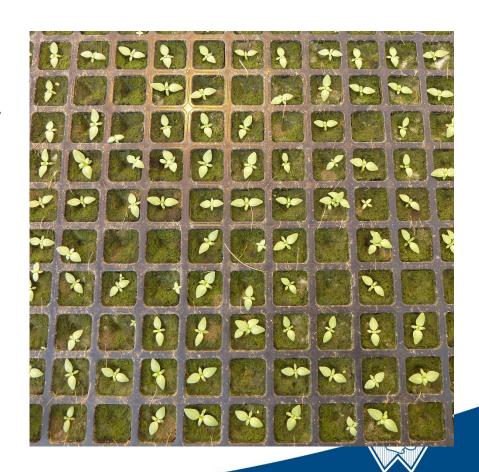
- Seed requires light to germinate (up to 2,500 f.c./27,000 lux).
- Capillary action imitates the native habit and provides uniform moisture and germination.
- In its native area
  Lisianthus germinates
  in small pools of water.





# Stage 2: Days 15-21

- After germination is complete, place in a well lighted greenhouse with 2,500-3,000 f.c./27,000-32,000 lux, with good air circulation and a temperature between 59-68°F/15-20°C.
- Fertilize with 100-150 ppm N using a calcium nitrate-based formulation.



### **Stage 3: Days 22-56**

- Avoid stressing the plant with:
- Low light levels
- Moisture stress

which promote a rosette oran induced resting stage.

- On the other hand, excess moisture invites disease.
- Fertilize at 150 ppm nitrogen targeting an EC of 0.4 - 0.8 mmho/cm. (1:2 dilution).



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### **Stage 4: Days 57-60**

- The plugs have two pairs of leaves and are now ready for transplanting.
- Late transplanting results in poor rooting, delayed flowering and shorter flower stems.





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### **Active Root System**

- It is important to transplant on time to avoid root banding / circling.
- Straight roots improve the transition between the plug tray and the flower bed.



# Seedling Study

 Plants from aged plugs flower later on shorter stems.





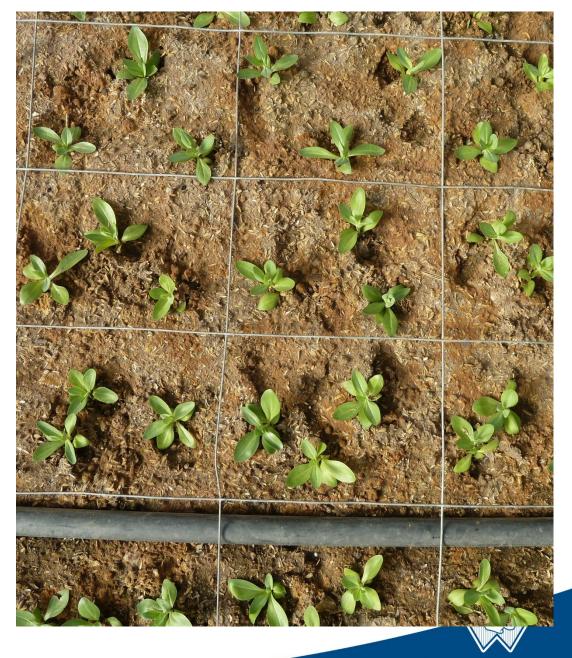
Based on its native habit, keep the soil surface dry to prevent disease and force the roots to go deeper in search of moisture..



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# Spacing

- Spacing will depend on whether one is producing a pinched or single stem crop.
- In general, space 4 x 5 inches/10 x 12.5 cm. apart for better air movement and disease prevention.



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# Spacing

• Leaving 2 rows empty in the center of the bed improves air movement and reduces disease.





# Flower Bed Design



- Placing plants in lines of 2 rows with a space between plantings improves air movement and increases light penetration.
- Less problem with botrytis which is the main disease of Lisianthus.



# After transplant advice

• Keep higher humidity for the first 10 days following transplanting and reduce light levels to minimize stress on the plants.





# *Rosette – resting stage*



Temperatures higher than 82°F/28°C during the first 4 weeks after sowing can induce rosetting in susceptible varieties. Maintain moderate temperatures between 63-75°F/17-24°C to prevent rosetting. If the day temperature exceeds 82°F/28°C, one can compensate with a lower night temperature below59°F/13°C.



### Rosette

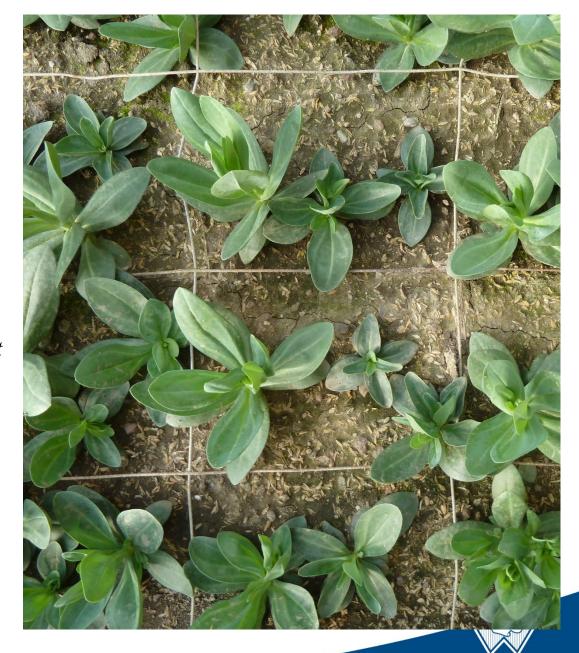
- A rosette is a resting stage due to plant stress, (high temperature or moisture stress).
- Stress induces a resting stage for the survival of the species with the hope that the following season will be more favorable for growth and reproduction.



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### Rosette

- Rosetted plants sometimes do not appear until after transplanting.
- This condition is difficult to cure and requires a strong cold period to break the dormancy.
- The use of gibberellic acid is not an effective solution.





Fusarium avenaceum, is a pathogen found in soil, and is a major challenge. One strategy is to apply Azoxystrobin\* to innoculate the plugs or transplants.



# Light

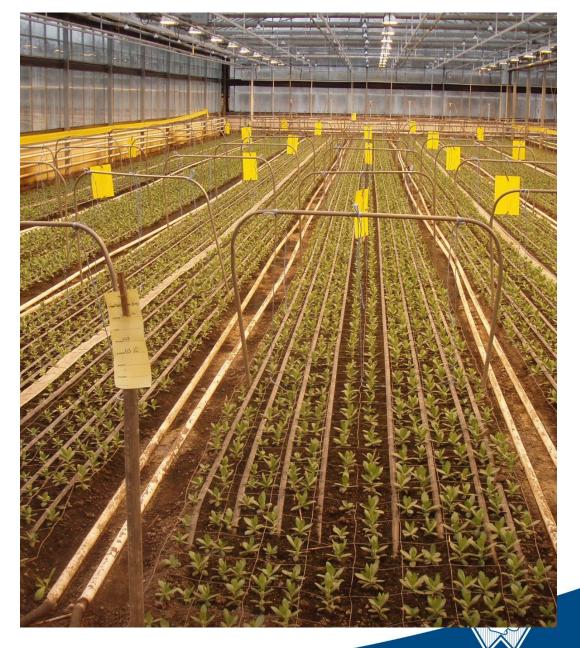
• High Light increases flower bud size and number.



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### Supplemental Light

• Applying supplemental light to extend the photoperiod or provide more light calories reduces crop time and improves plant quality.





### Raised Bed

 A raised bed improves drainage and soil aeration for deeper rooting and a drier soil surface.



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## A raised bed made of wooden boards



# **Black Bags**

Growing in black
 bags is an option to
 increase drainage.
 It also allows the
 use of sterilized soil
 mixed with
 recommended
 components.





# Idea for maintaining the metal support wire tense



• Using the invention in the photo helps keep the metal support wire more tense for a straighter crop.



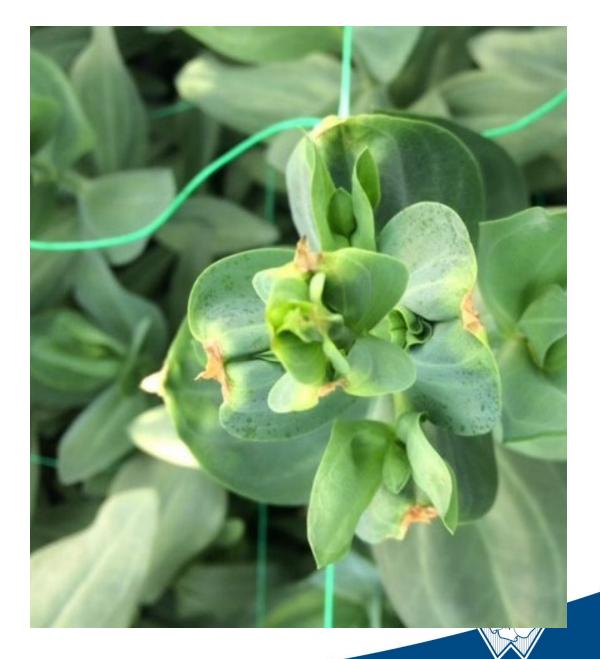
### Lack of Calcium

- Calcium is an immobile element. Therefore, a deficiency shows in the younger foliage.
- For optimum uptake do the following:
- pH 6.8 7.2
- enough boron
- enough calcium
- a well-formed root system.



Tip burn due to excess nitrogen.

 Excess nitrogen suppreses calciuim uptake, resulting in tip burn.



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### Magnesium deficiency

 Magnesium is a mobile element, so a deficiency symptom shows first on the lower leaves.





# Culture Technique - 8 weeks after transplanting



- As the crop progresses, supply water less frequently\* to achieve a deep and healthy root system.
- Healthy roots are better able to withstand stressful conditions.
- Stop fertilizing 4 weeks before flowering begins.

\*for the Voyage series maintain steady moisture.

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### Internode length

 A gradual increase in internode length is a sign of a wellgrown crop.



Rosita Blue Picotee



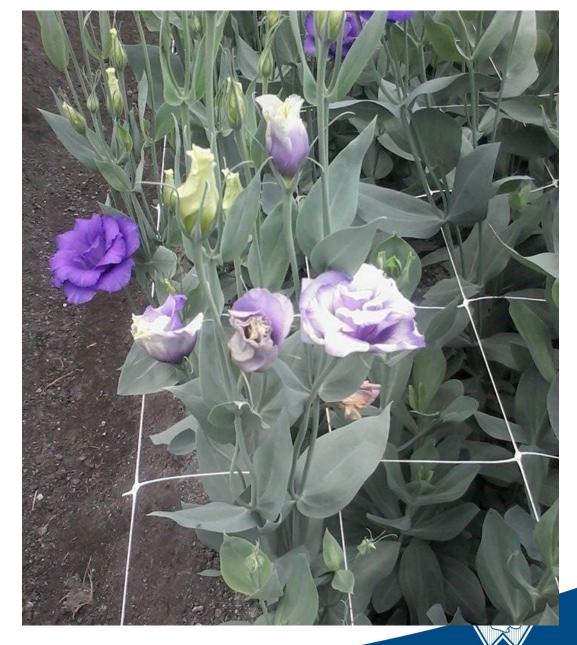
### Weak Stems

 Lisianthus grown too warm and with too much moisture results in weak flower stems.



### Flores descoloridas

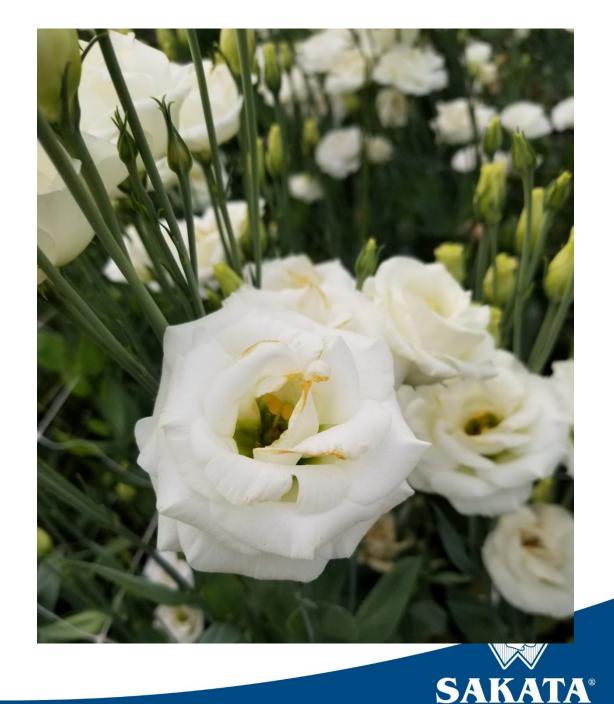
Reduce light
 intensity and
 temperature before
 flowering to avoid
 flower
 discoloration.





### Burned flower petals

- High temperature combined with high light intensity causes flower petal burn.
- Maintain enough soil moisture and apply shade cloth to reduce the temperature and light intensity.



### Flower Peduncle

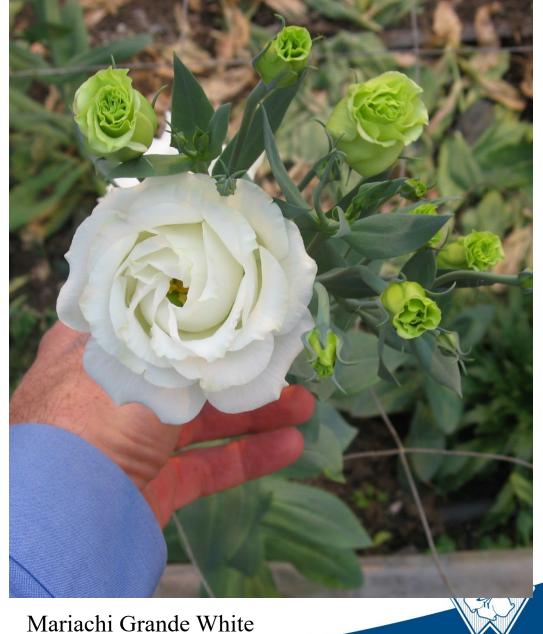
Uneven flower
 peduncle length
 was common in
 earlier genetics.





# Top Flowering

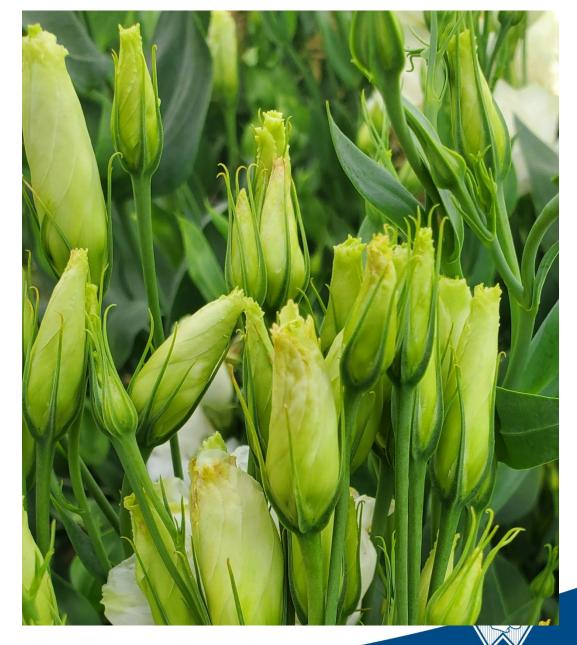
Newer genetics are bred so that all of the flowers form at the same height for a better presentation.



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#### Flower Petal Burn

- Flower petal burn due to high light and high temperature following a chemical spray application.
- It is best to apply chemicals in the morning when temperatures are cooler and the light intensity is lower.







#### Thrips

Thrips are an important greenhouse pest and also a vector of disease.



#### Virus

• Lisianthus is affected by various viruses, among which is INSV (Impatiens Necrotic Spot Virus). Destroy plants infected with a virus to avoid containinating the entire crop.



# Lisianthus Classification

- Flower Petal; Single / Double
- Flower Size; Large / Small
- Flower Form; Rose / Camelia etc.
- Flower Color; Rose, Blue, White etc.
- Type of Branching; Standard / Spray
- Earliness; Groups 1 3

\*; Let's review the classification table!



#### Lisianthus Characteristics

Flowering Period	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Summer	Good	Better	Good
Autumn	No	Maybe*	Better
Winter	Better	Maybe*	No
Spring	Better	Maybe*	No

<sup>\*</sup>depending on the weather, somewhat risky



#### Lisianthus Classification Factors that affect development in order *Optimium Height 24 – 30 inches* of impact. Temperature #1 Light Intensity #2 Photoperiod #3 Group 1 Group 2 Group 3 **AKATA**® 15 nodes 18 nodes 12 nodes

### Lisianthus Echo – Group 1









- Group 1 / Standard Doble Flower
- 8 vibrant colors
- The first series with 100% double large Flowers.
- Strong plants that support the large flowers.



### Rosanne – Groups 1 - 2





Excellent vase life with strong petals that resist botrytis problems during transport

• The flower stigmas do not develop yielding a longer vase life.



# Mariachi® – Group 2





- Quadruple petals that is ideal for sowing in winter and harvesting in spring.
- Thick petals for improved shelf life and easier transportation.

#### Voyage® – Group 2







- Large fringed flowers that are beautiful!
- Strong petals that ship well under stressful conditions.
- Excellent top flowering habit.
- Highly sought-after flowers available in 9 unique colors



### Rosita® – Groups 1 - 3









- Strong petals and top flowering with strong stems making transportation easy with less botrytis problems.
- Rose-shaped medium-sized flowers.
- Excellent vase life with more usable buds.





#### Lisianthus Serie Solo® - Group 2

- Solo® is the first pollen free series in the world, and the next generation in single flowered Lisianthus.
- Solo flowers do not produce pollen, which means that there is no mess, no stained flowers and an even longer vase life.
- The delicate but strong flowers ship well with less risk of damage and disease.
- *Initially available in 4 colors.*





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# Rosita 2 Green / Voyage 2 Green





# Many thanks for your attention!



• Thank you for your support and confidence in our genetics.

Sakata Seed America

