

# Zantedeschia (Coloured Calla) Crop Timeline



Length of the total crop cycle including dormancy will depend on a range of factors and may take up to 48 weeks or longer



N-K ratio	3 to 1	2 to 1.5	1 to 1	1 to 1.5	1 to 3	<i>Note this ratio is critical for optimum growth.</i>
EC level	0.9 - 1.8					
pH	6.0 - 6.5					
Calcium	Add readily taken up product in low temperatures / dull conditions eg. <b>Bioman Calcium</b> (ex USA), <b>Calbit</b> (ex Italy) or a calcium chelate product					

Test pH / EC weekly and take at least 3 to 4 soil tests throughout the growing cycle to monitor soil nutrient levels

Addition of growth additives / promotors like seaweed products (eg. *Ascophyllum nodosum*) can also be beneficial

Recent research demonstrates that as nitrates reduce, there is a corresponding reduction in growth rates. Apply N in NO<sub>3</sub> form rather than NH<sub>4</sub>

**Caution: if liquid feeding, reduce fertiliser in latter half of tuberisation as irrigation is progressively withdrawn**

*Plant & growing time will depend on greenhouse temperature & light, but will significantly lengthen in cooler & duller weather.*

*Zantedeschia (Coloured Calla) will have less flowers and reduced tuber multiplication in winter, low light conditions.*

*Supplementary lighting and heating may be an advantage in dull or winter conditions. Good greenhouse ventilation and airflow is essential at all times.*

<b>Pregermination</b>	Pregerminate for 7-10 days @ 21-25°C and 85% humidity ( <b>very stable</b> ) in controlled temperature store until green shoots emerge at least 5-10mm.
<b>GA3 application</b>	Spray with <b>GA3</b> (100ppm - 1 tablet / 8-10 l) or <b>Promalin</b> ® (100ppm - 5ml / l) and <b>Previcur</b> ® (1.5ml / l). Dry tubers before planting
<b>Plant &amp; Grow</b>	Plant out & Grow. Test pH & EC weekly. Watch for disease/pests. Irrigate daily as required. Length of growing period will depend on climate
<b>Flower Harvest</b>	Approximately 4-6 weeks to complete flowering. Pull flowers; chill @ 6-8°C; grade & pulse @ ambient temperature (3 hours); chill & pack for market
<b>Tuberisation</b>	Continue to grow after flowering is completed for a minimum of 15-16 weeks to multiply the tuber. Reduce water towards end of cycle, monitor EC
<b>Lifting &amp; Curing</b>	Lift tubers at maturity; cure @ 25°C & reduce humidity to 65% (3-5 days); stabilise @ 15-20°C with good air flow (3-5 weeks); remove roots & grade
<b>Dormancy &amp; Storage</b>	Minimum of 12-16 weeks <b>from lifting</b> before planting again. Long term storage @ 8-10°C, 65-70% humidity, good air circulation

**Disclaimer:** This model is a general guide ONLY. There is no guarantee, stated or implied by BLOOMZ of actual crop performance or length of growing cycle. Actual performance depends on factors including: quality & size of tuber stock; tuber variety; crop density & nutrition; seasonality; crop environment (temperature, humidity & light levels); disease prevention; grower skill & management.