

Seed Production

Technical Bulletin C08/12



1. Arrival of Seed

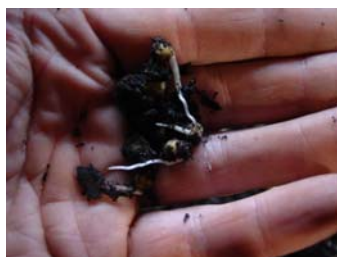
- Unpack from shipping cartons and store in dry conditions and uniform room temperature (15-20°C) until ready to plant.
- Avoid humid conditions as mould will attack seed
- If mould occurs, treat with **Captan** (orthocide), aerate and dry out seed

2. Pre-germination

- As per the germination test, not all seed is viable. Typically only 55 - 60% will sprout.
- Pre-germinate seed to ensure only viable seed is planted – this saves significant growing costs and maximizes growing space.
- Use a sterilized growing media for pre-germination: peat or composted bark based products work well. There is no need for fertilizer at this stage
- Incorporate a fungicide like **Captan** to protect seed from moulds
- Spread out seeds in a planter bin (eg. 600mm x 400mm) and only use enough media to ensure the seeds are fully covered. There is no need to fill the box with media, as the purpose is only to sprout the seeds.



- Keep the media moist at all times but not too wet
- Maintain warm temperature at 20°C
- The first seed will sprout in 2-3 weeks - germination can take up to six weeks.



- Germination can be uneven so carefully remove germinated seed for planting at weekly intervals. Move the mix round to aerate – this helps avoid moulds

3. Planting

- Plant out into plastic or polystyrene planter bins (600mm x 400mm) in protected conditions – a well ventilated simple plastic greenhouse (rain cover) works well
- Use a peat or composted bark seed raising mix with incorporated fertilizer. The BLOOMZ tissue culture growing media works well.
- Incorporate a fungicide in the mix: eg. **Rizolex**
- Soil temperature should be 16-20°C.
- Plant out sprouted seeds at 40 - 50 seeds per bin. Greater densities will restrict tuber growth.
- Plant at 1cm depth - ensure seed are well covered by the mix to avoid dehydration.



4. Crop Management

- Once the first leaf emerges follow the same BLOOMZ protocol as for growing on Zantedeschia tissue culture plants.

Disclaimer - No guarantee of production performance is expressed or implied by BLOOMZ. All chemical products recommended are those found to be appropriate by Calla growers and are a guide rather than registered products with specific application to Zantedeschia (Coloured Calla Lily).