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CYCLAMEN GIBBERELLIC ACID TREATMENT

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Proper application of gibberellic acid (GA) to cyclamen plants provides earlier, more uniform flowering. Both quantity and concentration applied influence the results. One should apply 8 ml of a GA solution with a nonionic wetting agent to the crown (not the leaf canopy) of the plant 45 to 60 days before the desired bloom date. This rate is equivalent to:

2 fluid ounces to 7 plants (29.6 ml = 1 fl oz)
1 quart (32 fluid ounces) to 115 plants (946 ml = 1 qt)
1 gallon (128 fluid ounces) to 470 plants (3785 ml = 1 gal)
or
1 liter (1000 milliliters) to 125 plants
4 liters (4000 milliliters) to 500 plants

Don't drench with excessive quantities as the plants may "overract." A 25 ppm GA solution is recommended for most cultivars. A 10 ppm GA solution is recommended for F-1 cultivars such as Gypsy, Merry Widow, Rosamunde and Swan Lake. If you have not applied GA to cyclamen previously, try it on a portion of the crop the first year to become familiar with the process.

One commonly available commercial product is a liquid formulation with a 0.0875% GA content. It may be diluted as follows:

Desired concentration	Quantity to add per Liter	Quart	Gallon
10 ppm	12 ml	11 ml	43 ml
25 ppm	29 ml	27 ml	108 ml

1 teaspoonful = 5 ml
1 tablespoonful = 15 ml

Example: If you wish to spray 110 F-1 hybrid plants, you will need approximately 1 quart of a 10 ppm spray. Mix 11 ml of the commercial GA product plus an appropriate wetting agent and enough water to make 1 quart of spray material. Then insert the spray nozzle below the leaf canopy and wet the crown of the plant. You may wish to make a trial run with water to become accustomed to the quantity of spray that should be applied.

Gibberellic acid products should be refrigerated for maximum shelf life.

GA TABLETS

Although the liquid formulation previously mentioned is easiest to use, some persons have GA tablets. Each tablet usually contains 4 grams of gibberellic acid. The quantity of solution that can be prepared is largely controlled by the tablet content. Dilution ratios are as follows:

Desired concentration	1 Tablet in	¼ Tablet in	Ml of stock solution* in 1 gallon
5 ppm	200 gal	50 gal	19
10 ppm	100 gal	25 gal	38
25 ppm	40 gal	10 gal	95
100 ppm	10 gal	2.5 gal	380
250 ppm	4 gal	1 gal	95.0

*Stock solution prepared by dissolving 1 GA 4-gm tablet in 1 gallon of water. 1 fluid ounce = 29.6 ml. Store stock solutions in a refrigerator, but do not save for more than a few days.

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