



## Patio Pots for Summer Sale

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**T**here is little exact bedding plant scheduling information in the literature for the production of large containers after Memorial Day.

Many references simply state "make continuous or repeated sowings, etc."

I suggest that you adapt, at least for a start, the Bedding Plant Time Tables found in the *PSU Bedding Plants Manual*, (see Table 1).

If using the higher (night) growing temperatures in the table, it is possible to estimate a summer bloom date. The sowing date is calculated in reverse order. That is, determine the desired bloom date (sale date) and, at a given temperature, work backwards to a sowing date.

When using plugs, employ a similar procedure (use Table 2 as a guide).

Since there are many environmental factors which will affect scheduling, it is best to establish your own schedule starting with the guides in Tables 1 and 2.

Good luck!

**Table 1. Schedule for Seed Propagated Annuals; Time from Germination to Blossom at Different Temperatures.**

<i>Plant</i>	<i>Temperature at which to Grow Seedlings after Germination</i>	<i>Time from Seeding to Transplanting (weeks)</i>	<i>(Night) Growing on Temperature after Transplanting</i>	<i>Time from Transplanting to Bloom or Sale (weeks)</i>	<i>Total Time Seeding to Bloom (weeks)</i>
Ageratum	70° for 1 week then 50°	4	50°	8-9	12-13
			60°	6-7	10-11
			70°	5-6	9-10
Alyssum (Annual)	50°-55°	4	40°	7	11
			50°	5	9
			60°	3	7
Aster	60°	3	50°	6	9
			60°	4	7
			70°	3	6
Balsam	60°	3	60°	5	8
			65°	4	7
			70°	3	6
Begonia (fibrous rooted)	70° for 2 weeks then 60°	8	50°**	8	16
			60°	7	15
			70°	6	14
Browallia	60°	4-5	55°	12	16-17
			65°	11	15-16
			75°	10	14-15
Calendula	50°-55°	4	40°	5	9
			50°	4	8
			60°*	3	7
Carnation	55°-60°	6	45°	8	14
			50°	6	12
			60°	5	11
Celosia	65°	4	55°**	6	10
			65°	5	9
			75°*	4	8

Centaurea	55°	3	50°	4	7
Cyanus			60°	3	6
			70°	3	6
Coleus	60°	3	50°	7	10
			60°	5	8
			70°	4	7
Dahlia	55°	3	55°	6	9
			65°	5	8
			75°	4	7
Dianthus	50°	4	50°	7	11
			60°	6	10
			70°	5	9
Dusty Miller (Centaurea Candid.)	60°	6	50°	9	15
			60°	8	14
			70°	7	13
Dusty Miller (Centaurea Gymnocarpa Cineraria Martima)	60°	5	55°	8	13
			65°	7	12
			75°	6	11
Geranium	60°	2-3	50°	15	17-18
			60°	13	15-16
			70°	12	14-15
Impatiens	60°	4	55°	6	10
			65°	4	8
			75°	3	7
Kochia	70°	2	60°	3	5
			65°	2	4
			70°	2	4
Larkspur	50°	6-7	40°	6	12-13
			50°	6	12-13
			60°	5	11-12
Lobelia	50°	4	40°	7	11
			50°	6	10
			60°	5	9
Marigold Dwarf	60°	3	55°	9	12
			65°	7	10
			75°	6	9

Marigold Tall	60°	3	55°	4	7
			65°	3	6
			75°	2	5
Nierembergia	55°	5-6	50°	10	15-16
			60°	9	14-15
			70°	8	13-14
Pansy	50°	4	40°	12	16
			50°	10	14
			60°	9	13
Petunia Double	60°	4	50°	8	12
			60°	7	11
			70°	6	10
Petunia Single	60°	4	50°	6	10
			60°	5	9
			70°	4	8
Phlox	55°	3	50°	7	10
			60°	6	9
			70°	5	8
Portulaca	60°	6	50°	8	14
			60°	7	13
			70°	6	12
Salvia	60°	3	55°	7	10
			65°	6	9
			75°	5	8
Snapdragon Dwarf	50°	4	40°	10	14
			50°	8	12
			60°	7	11
Snapdragon Tall	50°	4	40°	6	10
			50°	5	9
			60°	4	8
Stocks	50°	4	40°	7	11
			50°	6	10
			60°	5	9
Verbena	60°	4	55°	7	11
			65°	6	10
			75°	5	9
Vinca Rosea	70°-75°	5	65°	9	14
			75°	8	13
			85°	7	12

Zinnia Dwarf	60°	3	55°**	6	9
			65°	5	8
			75°*	5	8
Zinnia Tall	60°	3	55°**	3	6
			65°	2	5
			75°*	2	5
Cabbage	55°	2 1/2	45°	4	6 1/2
			55°	3	5 1/2
			65°	3	5 1/2
Eggplant	60°	4	55°	5	9
			65°	4	8
			75°*	3	7
Onion	45°	-	40°	12	12
			50°	11	11
			60°	9	9
Pepper	65°	3	55°	5	8
			65°	4	7
			75°*	3	6
Tomato	60°	3	55°	4	7
			65°	3	6
			75°*	2	5
*Temperature too warm to produce quality plants.					
**Temperature too cool to produce quality plants.					

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<i>Bedding Plant</i>	<i>Age of Plug in Weeks</i>	<i>Night Temperature</i>	<i>Weeks from Transplant to Sale</i>
Ageratum	4	60°	6
Alyssum	4	60°	4
Begonia	8	60°	7
Coleus	4	60°	4
Dusty Miller	7	60°	5
Seed Geranium	7	60°	7
Impatiens	5	60°	5
Marigold (dwarf)	5	60°	5
Marigold (large-flowered) Shaded for short days	5	60°	6
Pansy	6	50°	6
Petunia	6	60°	5
Snapdragon	6	50°	7
Portulaca	5	60°	5
Salvia	6	60°	6
Vinca	8	65o	8

## References

Maslalerz, J. W. 1976. *Bedding Plants, A manual on the culture of bedding plants as a greenhouse crop*, second edition. pp. 1-516.

Tayama, H. K. 1987. *Tips on Growing Bedding Plants*. Ohio Cooperative Extension Service. MM265. AGDEX 200/15:1-66.