

## Oxalis regnelli

Shamrocks with 3 large, sharply cut, green leaves with 5 petaled white flowers

Starting the crop

The key steps are:

- 1) grow warm to start- 65° night
- 2) grow on the dry side
- 3) don't over-fertilize

Oxalis Regnelli have scaly rhizomes of approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 1 inch in length. These must be planted immediately upon arrival or stored at 40° to 50°F, if necessary. Plant three to five rhizomes per 4-inch pot, or four to six per 5-inch or 6-inch pot, at a depth of 1.5 inches.

Although 3 rhizomes are suggested, in reality, about 10 corms in a 4" pot will give you a fuller plant. Use a well-drained greenhouse mix, and water in well. The crop gets off to the best start if grown at a soil temperature of 70° to 75°F until well established (good root systems). Once established, drop to a night temperature of 65°F. Lower temperatures will severely delay the crop, but can also be used to hold mature crops, if needed. The crop is best grown pot-to-pot in a medium- to high-light greenhouse. Spacing may be necessary depending on light level, temperature, and age of the plant at market. Once you have your first flush of growth, shear the plants back to promote more growth.

Soil pH should be 6.5 and no lower.

After planting, water the medium thoroughly. Subsequently, only water the medium when it becomes dry and /or the plants begin to grow vigorously.

### **DO NOT OVERWATER**

Fertilizer:

Use a complete NPK fertilizer on a weekly basis once the plants begin to grow vigorously. Either 200ppm N of 20-20-20 or 14-14-14 Osmocote can be used. If chlorosis begins to appear in the oldest leaves, use a micronutrient foliage spray.

Problems:

Oxalis is susceptible to a number of foliar disorders, including an interveinal chlorosis that is especially pronounced at lower growing temperatures. Although the exact cause is unknown, micronutrient sprays applied when the problem develops have been effective. Wrinkled leaves and leaf edge burn also occur fairly frequently, and again the cause is currently unknown. Spider mites are the major insect pest

After March 17<sup>th</sup>:

If have any left over after march 17th, put the pots on a tray and throw the tray under a bench in the greenhouse until fall. In about October, dump the pots with the corms and break them into pieces and re plant. Throw them under the benches again, you want them to be cooled for about 6 weeks. Then the following spring/January warm them up and start all over again.

For a St. Patricks week crop

Plants normally take 5 to 7 weeks depending on your greenhouse conditions

Order by September

Quantities of 250

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