

# ASTILBES

## Cultivation Manual



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# Astilbe Varieties



**Country & Western**



**Drum & Bass**



**Hip Hop**



**New Wave**



**Rhythm & Blues**



**Rock N Roll**

# Background

The Astilbe “Music Series” is a compact series produced specifically for container production. The bare roots are grown domestically, which means they will flower evenly in 8-12 weeks; depending on temperature and conditions.

In contrast, product that is grown outside of the country needs to be given warm temperature treatment for Nematodes in order to be exported to the United States. This leads to poor flowering and product that needs to be planted in May/June and held over till the following year for sales.



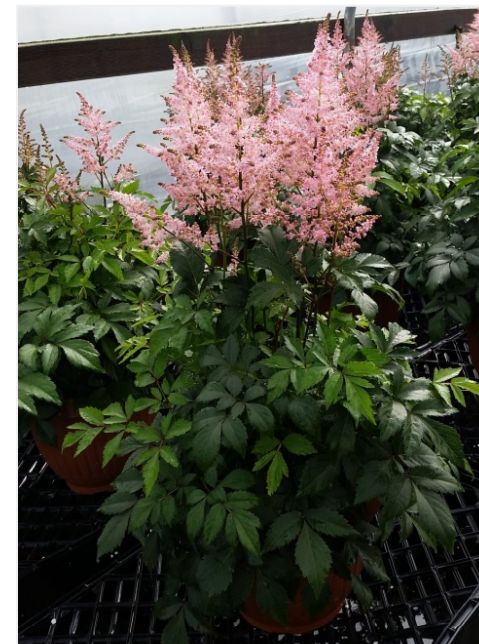
# Planting

If bare roots are still frozen upon receiving, give them 24 hours to thaw out before planting. Astilbes require a soil mix that holds moisture well, particularly when production is being done in warmer areas.

Plant the bare roots with the eyes facing up about 1 inch under the soil. Be sure to keep the pots wet for the first few days until the first leaves begin to emerge, then regulate water depending on needs.

The pH should be between 5.8 and 6.2. Ideal temperature after planting is between 65 and 75.

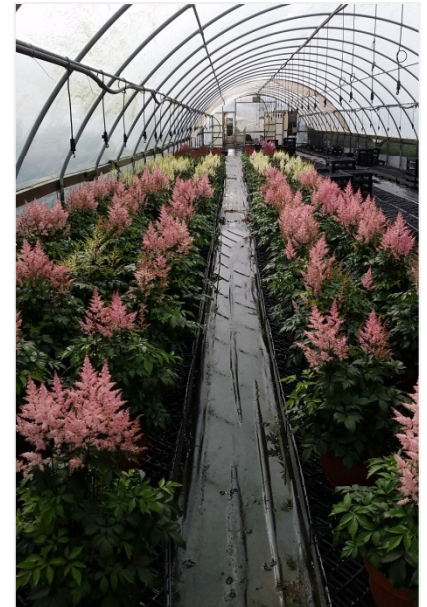
Bare Root Size	Pot Size
2/3	1 BR per gallon container
3/5	1 BR per gallon or 2 gallon container
4+	1 BR per 2 gallon container



# Watering & Growing Area

**Watering:** Astilbes are fairly easy to grow in general; the one thing that is very important to monitor closely is the watering. Astilbes require a large amount of water, particularly during the last couple weeks when the plants are more mature. It's important that the plants never dry out. A good indicator that the plants need water is the stems will begin to droop down. Once this is seen it's important that the plants get water right away.

**Growing Area:** If temperatures remain above freezing, Astilbes are generally grown outdoors or in cold frames. During late Spring and Summer plantings, we recommend putting them under 30-40% shade.



# Disease & Pests

Astilbes are susceptible to the following pests:

- Japanese Beetle
- White Fly
- Tarnished Plant Bug
- Black Vine Weevil

They are also susceptible to the following diseases:

- Bacterial Leaf Spot
- Cercospora Leaf Spot
- Powdery Mildew

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