



Blizzard Compact

# Arenaria Blizzard Compact

## Culture Guide

syngenta®flowers

**Botanical name:** *Arenaria montana*

**Product form:** Seed

**Containers:** Quarts, Gallons

**Habit:** Mounded

**Vernalization:** Required

Garden Specifications

**Garden Height:** 4–8" (10–20 cm) tall

**Garden Width:** 6–12" (15–25 cm) wide

**Exposure:** Part Sun

**USDA zone:** 4–7

**AHS zone:** 6–4

**Product use:** Containers, Landscapes

Germination

Stages 1 & 2

**Germination time:** 9–14 days

**Media temp:** 65–68 °F (18–20 °C)

**Chamber:** Optional

**Light:** Required for germination

**Seed cover:** Yes

**Moisture level: 4 - WET:** Soil is dark brown but not shiny, no free water is seen at the surface of the soil, when pressed or squeezed water drips easily, and trays are heavy with a visible bend in the middle.

**Rec. tray size:** 288–cell tray

**Seeds per cell:** 2–3

Young Plant Production

Stage 3 & 4

**Temperature**

**Day:** 64–66 °F (18–20 °C)

**Night:** 62–64 °F (17–18 °C)

**Average daily temperature:** 64 °F (18 °C)

**Lighting**

**Day extension lighting:** Not necessary

**Light intensity:** 200–250  $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  for the first two weeks after sowing or until true leaf development occurs. Light levels can be increased up to 600  $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  as rooting increases and the seedling matures.

**Day length response:** Obligate long day

**Daily light integral:** 8–10  $\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{d}^{-1}$

**Media pH:** 5.8–6.2

**Media EC:** SME 0.5 to 0.75 mS/cm



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**Fertilizer:** 50–75 ppm N

**Moisture level:** Media should be allowed to dry between irrigations. Alternate between moisture level 2 and 3.

**2 - MEDIUM:** Soil is light brown in color, no water can be extracted from soil, and soil will crumble apart.

**3 - MOIST:** Soil is brown in color, strongly squeezing the soil will extract a few drops of water, and trays are light with no visible bend.

**Pinching:** No

**Plant growth regulators (PGRs):** Not necessary

**Plug grow time:** 5–6 weeks in a 288–cell tray

Bulking and Vernalization

**Vernalization:** Required

**Bulking**

**Bulking Time:** See Scheduling Section

**Temperature:** 64–66 °F (18–19 °C)

**Pinch:** No

**PGR:** Not necessary

**Vernalization**

**Vernalization Time:** 8–10 weeks

**Temperature:** 35–40 °F (2–4 °C)

**Tech tip:** Growing outdoors under cold conditions will increase crop times.

Finishing

**Temperature**

**Day:** 64–66 °F (18–19 °C)

**Night:** 58–60 °F (14–16 °C)

**Average daily temperature:** 62 °F (16 °C)

## Lighting

**Day extension lighting:** Beneficial to 14 hours

**Light intensity:** 800–1,200  $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$

**Day length response:** Obligate long day

**Daily light integral:** 12–14  $\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{d}^{-1}$

**Transplanting:** Transplant directly into the finished container. Place the rooting media slightly above the level of media in the container. Make sure that the root ball is covered and that the plug is situated in the center of the pot.

**Media pH:** 5.5–5.9

**Media EC:** SME EC: 1.5–2.1 mS/cm, PourThru EC: 2.3–3.2 mS/cm

**Fertilizer:** 75–125 ppm N

**Pinching:** No. Pinching is not recommended or needed.

**Plant growth regulators (PGRs):** If needed, B-Nine® WSG (daminozide) spray at 2,500 ppm can be used.

**Tech tip:** Watch EC levels as roots are sensitive to high salt concentrations.



Try Chrysal Alesco®, a postharvest foliar spray, to protect ethylene sensitive crops during shipping and retail.

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**2 - MEDIUM:** Soil is light brown in color, no water can be extracted from soil, and soil will crumble apart.

**3 - MOIST:** Soil is brown in color, strongly squeezing the soil will extract a few drops of water, and trays are light with no visible bend.

**Common pests:** Aphids

**Common diseases:** Botrytis, Pythium, Rhizoctonia

## Scheduling

Size	Crop Time			Plants Per Pot
	Bulk	Vern.	Finish	
1.0 quart (4.5 to 5 inch)	5–6 weeks	8–10 weeks	8–9 weeks	1 ppp
1.25 to 2.5 quart (5.5 to 6.5 inch, trade gallon)	6–7 weeks	8–10 weeks	8–9 weeks	2–3 ppp

Estimated finish crop time is from transplant of a 288-cell tray and finished at an average daily temperature (ADT) of 62 °F (16 °C).

## Example crop schedule for a 1.0 quart

Weeks From Transplant	Description
1 week	Plant two plugs in the center of the container. Start the bulking process.
5 weeks	Finish bulking the containers and start lowering the temperatures between 40–50 °F (5–10 °C) to start vernalization the containers
13 weeks	Finish the vernalization process and start to raise the temperatures to 60 °F (16 °C) to start forcing flowers.
21 weeks	Finish

