



Growing information Ranunculus

Pre-sprouting (preparation) information for Ranunculus

The reason you do this is to have bulbs start the development and have a better and more even start on growing your Ranunculus for optimal rooting and flower development.

We ship the bulbs dry.

You have received your Ranunculus bulbs in plastic trays, packed in netlon bags. Keep the bulbs dry and at 21 degrees C with a ventilator.

Butterfly™ series

Soak the bags for 12 hours in water at a temperature of 25 degrees C. With 5gr of GA3 (Gibberellic Acid) or 50ppm per 100 liter (maintain a temperature of 25 degrees C during this 12 hour period).

Make sure that the whole bag is submerged in water for the whole period!

Dip the bulbs in a fungicide for about 15 minutes: 1% of Topsin M (active ingredients: thiofanaat-methand 500 g/l) + ½% Securo (active ingredients: pyraclostrobin 100 g/l + folpet 300 g/l).

Directly after soaking the bulbs for 12 hours and after the fungicide dip, you need to plant the bulbs in the soil as soon as possible. Keep the soil moist enough, because then the soil will make good contact with the bulbs. When it is not possible to directly plant the bulbs, store the Ranunculus in a coldstore unit at 5 degrees C. And dip them once again in water for 15 minutes before planting.

It is very important to make sure that the bulbs do not dry out before or after planting! When the bulbs dry out, you will have loss of germination of the bulbs (see the picture below). The same applies to the Ranunculus Romance™, of course.



On the picture: on the right side we see bulbs that have dried out before planting. On the left we see bulbs that were planted in good condition.

Romance™ series

Soak the bags for 12 hours in water at a temperature of 25 degrees C. With 5gr of GA3 (Gibberellic Acid) or 50ppm per 100 liter (maintain a temperature of 25 degrees C during this 12 hour period).

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It is very important to make sure that the bulbs do not dry out after planting! When the bulbs dry out, you will have loss of germination of the bulbs.

Plant the Ranunculus Romance™ bulbs in a soil with a temperature below the 12 degrees C. Because Ranunculus Romance™ bulbs do not perform well when the soil temperature is above 12 degrees C.

New planting:

Take a soil sample (before you start preparing the soil and bulbs).
Plant in a moist and well-drained soil, free from weeds.

Click [here](#) to see an example of a soil sample.

Fertilizing depends on a soil and water sample / analysis.

- PH: 5.8 – 6.3;
- EC: 1.3 to 1.5.

Ranunculus Butterfly™ series

- Grow: there is no need to use nets; maybe use ropes at the sides to keep the leaves in
- Watering: overhead in the beginning and possibly later with drip hoses

Ranunculus Romance™ series

- Grow: Romance™ in 1 layer of nets
- Watering: overhead in the beginning and later you need to water only by drip hoses

Start of the cultivation

Until some years ago, only phosphate was known for a better root development. Now we know that the plants have a preferred order as it comes to the absorption of elements. In the first stage of growth they need **sulfur**, followed in order by **boron, silicon, calcium, nitrogen, magnesium** and last but not least **phosphorus**.

The availability of these elements – especially **boron**, **silicon** and **calcium** – are essential for a good start of the plants. If one of these elements is not (enough) available, the chain will be broken and the growing process might start slower or with more problems.

Apply your fertilizer according to your soil sample.

Spacing

Ranunculus Butterfly: planting in the soil, 30 cm apart from each other in the row, with 35 cm of space between the rows and with 3 rows per bed (9 bulbs per meter bed).

Ranunculus Romance: planting in the soil, 20 cm apart from each other in the row, with 20 cm of space between the rows and with 4 rows per bed (20 bulbs per meter bed).

Planting depth: approximately 1-2 cm of soil **on top** of the bulbs.

Plant the bulbs with the center of the bulb facing up and the end of the roots down. Be careful of not damaging the bulbs when planting. Give water after planting so the soil is slightly moist and encloses around the bulbs.

Top of the plant:



Very important, especially in the beginning of the crop, is to keep the soil moist at all times!

In the first 2-4 weeks you will see your Ranunculus sprouting in the ground. Try to keep the air temperatures at night around 10-15 degrees C and as cool as possible during the day.

When the plants have sprouted and are growing for about 4-5 weeks and if there is sufficient foliage on the bulbs, lower the temperature at night to as cool as possible (no frost). You can get the best quality Ranunculus when growing them as cool as possible.

You can grow Ranunculus as cool as 2-4 degrees C. If it is possible, then keep the sides of the greenhouse open. And keep it well enough ventilated during the night to prevent mildew.

Approximately 1 week after planting, drench the soil with a 'cocktail' so the rooting is easier:

- Risolex;
- Topsin M;
- Proplant/previcure or Ranman Top (active ingredient cyazofamide 160 g/l). Ranman Top works also against Phytium.

Day length:

Ranunculus is a short day length plant. So make sure that you have no lights on at night in or around the greenhouse.

Diseases and insects:

Botrytis and Mildew: spray with Flint, Ortiva or Switch (the only remedy that works curatively at low temperatures) and use leaf fertilizers + trace elements to make the leaves harder.

Leaf spot: spray preventive with Luna Privilege and use leaf fertilizers + trace elements to make the leaves harder. Because this disease is very contagious, it is important to spray preventively.



Leaf spot disease

Xanthomonas: round, purple-red spots, often with a yellow circle. Spray preventively with, for example, Serenade or Ranman Top. Use leaf fertilizers + trace elements to make the leaves harder.

Erwina: spray preventively with copper oxychloride.

Do regular spotting in the greenhouse to check for: Caterpillars, Aphids (Tepeki), Leaf Miners (Vertimec), Spider Mites, Thrips and Whiteflies. And spray when needed.



Damage by caterpillars

Dead leaf cells:



The images above show a combination of moisture and low temperature. You can prevent this damage by using a fan for more air circulation.

Flower harvest and treatment during harvest:

Click on this link: <https://www.monarchflowers.nl/en/images/growing-videos>

Do not pull the stems from the bulb; always cut them with a knife!

Cool the water buckets in a cooler the night before to have cold water in the harvesting buckets. When the flowers are cut early in the morning, place them in water as soon as possible at a temperature of 4 degrees C (even before bunching) and store them in a cooler. If the crop is harvested later during the day, the stem dries in and will absorb less water. That is why it is important to place them in water directly after cutting.

Cutting stage Ranunculus Butterfly: sometimes you could have an early stretched flower stem on the **very first** stem. This early first stem needs to be pinched to the other flowers (only pinch the top flower). This pinch is only on the very first flower stem. And when the flower stems develop into normal stems, start cutting when 2-3 flowers are showing color and when 1 flower is open. You can cut the stem at ground level.

Cutting stage Ranunculus Romance: let the flowers open and close for 3 days and then cut the flowers for maximum size (this gives you larger flowers and a longer vase life). Harvest the Ranunculus Romance flowers only early in the morning. You can cut the stem at ground level.

Add a Chlorine tablet of Florissant 520 into a bucket with water to be placed in the cooler.



Green Works also supplies other summer flower starting material, like: Asclepias Beatrix® and Paeonia.

For more information, please consult [our website](#) or contact:

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Also, follow Green Works on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for more relevant information about our Ranunculus amongst other things.



Green Works is the grower specialized in young planting material for Peonies, Ranunculus, special pot plants and summer cut flowers. Green Works also is a large grower of peonies for the successful cultivation for cut flower and trade, in the Netherlands and abroad. We supply within the Netherlands and globally to professional growers and (export) traders. With support in cultivation, promotion and sales, Green Works offers a total package to put an unique and healthy product on the market: www.green-works.nl/en

Green Works can never be held liable for any cultural information given and only to be used as a guideline. The grower is at all times responsible for his own action and to read the label of the chemicals being used.
