

Purple Knight Alternanthera

Grower-Friendly Seed Variety Offers an Easy-to-Grow, Economical Choice!

- Striking dark purple-leafed accent plant has a vigorous, upright and spreading habit that arches over the edge of containers.
- Exceptional heat tolerance – even thrives in conditions such as subtropical Summers.
- Excellent in mixed containers or as a backdrop in beds and borders.
- Performs well in full sun to light shade. Foliage is darkest in full sun.
- Combines well with **Wave™ Purple**, **Wave™ Misty Lilac**, **Wave™ Lavender** & **Tidal Wave™ Silver**.
- Grows 16 to 20 in. (40 to 50 cm) tall in the garden and spreads 2 to 3 ft. (60 to 90 cm).
- 90% germination.

A. dentata

17,400 S./oz. 614 S./g

Plug Production

Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium with a pH of 5.5 to 6.3 and a medium initial nutrient charge (EC 0.75 mmhos/cm with a 1:2 extraction).

Sowing

Cover the seed lightly with coarse vermiculite. Germination takes 3 to 4 days.

Temperature

Germination: 72 to 76°F (22 to 24°C)

Cotyledon stage: 65 to 72°F (18 to 22°C)

True leaves: 65 to 70°F (18 to 21°C)

Hold plugs: 62 to 65°F (16 to 18°C)

Light

Light is beneficial for uniform germination.

After germination: 1,000 to 2,500 f.c. (10,000 to 30,000 Lux).

Seedling maturity: Up to 5,000 f.c. (54,000 Lux) if temperature can be controlled.

Humidity

Maintain 95% relative humidity until cotyledons emerge.

Soil Moisture

Keep soil moisture high until radicle emergence, then reduce moisture levels after the radicle penetrates the medium. Do not allow the seedlings to wilt.

Fertilizer

At radicle emergence, apply 50 to 75 ppm N from 15-0-15. As cotyledons expand, increase to 100 to 150 ppm N.

Growth Regulators

Not needed.

Growing On to Finish

Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium with a pH of 5.5 to 6.5 and a medium initial nutrient charge.

Temperature

Nights: 62 to 65°F (16 to 18°C)

Days: 65 to 75°F (18 to 24°C)

Light

Higher light levels result in deeper purple foliage.

Irrigation

Irrigate plants before they are wilted severely to avoid damage.

Fertilizer

Feed plants weekly with 200 ppm N in a complete fertilizer.

Growth Regulators

Growth regulators are generally not needed. However, if necessary, a Bonzi spray at about 30 to 45 ppm is effective in controlling height and spread.

Do not use Cycocel, as phytotoxicity will occur.

Pinching

Pinching is not needed.

Crop Scheduling

Sow to transplant (406-cell plug tray): 4 to 5 weeks

Transplant to saleable 4-in. (10-cm) pot: 7 to 8 weeks

Container Size	Plants Per Pot/Basket	Weeks From Transplant
Premium Pack	1	7 – 8
4 to 4.5-in. (10 to 11-cm) pot	1	7 – 8
6 to 6.5-in. (15 to 16-cm) pot	3	8 – 9
Gallon container (8-in./20-cm standard pot)	3	8 – 9

If producing liners (72-tray), allow 6 to 7 weeks from sow to transplant, and reduce post-transplant crop time by two weeks.

Common Problems

Insects: No serious problems.

Diseases: No serious problems.

Home Gardener “Green Thumb” Tips

Plant in full sun to light shade. Use **Purple Knight** alternanthera as a mid-height filler in mixed containers, or as a background plant in the garden. Space plants 12 in. (30 cm) apart in the garden. Using mulch around the plants seems to help get them established faster by keeping the soil cool and evenly moist. Feed regularly with an all-purpose fertilizer.

PanAmerican Seed

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