

## Hypericum - Culture Description

**PREFACE:** Hypericum plants known also as St. John's worts are annual or perennial, small or large shrubs that consist of about 400 species in nature. Perennial shrubs are about 1 meter tall sometimes even more, and flower naturally in the summer months. The branches are used as fillers in bouquets once the berries have ripened. The range of colors, sizes and shapes keeps growing from day to day. Berries come in a selection of attractive colors such as red, purple, orange, green and also white. The various breeders around the world are working in full force to introduce more colors, sizes and shapes. Hypericum plants are used also as medicinal plants.

**FAMILY:** Clusiaceae / Guttiferae

**ORIGIN:** All over the globe, in forests, mountain regions and the rocky slopes.

**USAGE:** As fillers in the bouquet industry.

**GROWING ENVIRONMENT:** Open fields.

**SOIL:** All types of drained soils and on detached medias.

**RECOMMENDED TEMPERATURE:** 25<sup>o</sup>C – 28<sup>o</sup>C during the day, 12<sup>o</sup>C-15<sup>o</sup>C during night. **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:**

**LIGHTING:** Lamps of 150 lux positioned 3X3 meters apart from each other.

**SUPPORTING NET:** A supporting net of 20X20 cm.

During winter use a 18% shading net against hail and switch to 30%-40% shading net during summer to protect the berries and foliage from drying up and turning black.

**IRRIGATION:** Use both overhead and drip systems – 2 lines.

**PLANTING DENSITY:** 20-24 plants per square meter bed, net.

**FLOWERING FLUSH DURATION:** About 4 months from planting until flowering. **NUMBER OF FLUSHES PER YEAR:** 2 flowering flushes.

**REQUIRED ACTIONS:** Planting, establishment of plants, pinching to a minimum of 7-10 internodes from the plant's base (at least about a month after planting), allowing growth of side stems, applying lighting when side stems are 30-40 cm. long, and until plenty of berries are noticeable -about a month before the end of harvest.

**SENSITIVITY TO DISEASES & PESTS:** Rust, botrytis, nematodes, aphids, white flies, thrips and spodoptera littoralis.

**HARVESTED FLOWER TREATMENT:** In order to avoid blackening of berries and prolonging the vase life use Coral 0.3% or Vitax 421-0.5%.

Branches must be stored in cooling for 12-72 hours max, and then transferred to fresh water mixed with anti bacterial solutions such as Chlorine, T.O.G6 and etc.

The cultural instructions presented here should be regarded as general guidelines. It is advised to make necessary adjustments when growing in different climatic conditions and agricultural practices. Danziger –"Dan" Flower Farm is not responsible for any damage caused by implementation of the recommendations.