

Culture Advice**Alternanthera**

Description:	Alternanthera is a compact, structured plant the colourful foliage of which gives variety to the bed and balcony plant range. Ideal for half-shaded to sunny places.
Potting:	9 to 12 cm pots, calendar weeks 50 to 10.
Substrate:	Loose and porous (Type 2). pH 5 - 6
Fertilization:	Low; apply a 0.075 to 0.15 % fertilizer once a week; do not use fertilizers containing too much nitrogen.
Temperature:	16 °C for approx. four weeks, then finish cultivation at 12 to 14 °C.
Light:	Cultivate in full light, no shadow.
Flowering:	Not at all or sparsely only under (our) local conditions; is meant to be a purely decorative leaf plant.
Growth regulators:	Growth regulators are not required.
Pinching:	Pinching is not absolutely necessary, but if branching is unsatisfactory a lopping or shaping here and there is recommended in order to get a better plant build-up.
Diseases and pest:	Botrytis, pythium.

Water balance is of importance; the plants must not stand too wet, danger of botrytis, damage to roots and irregular plant build-up would be the consequences.