



RECEIVING UNROOTED / CALLUSED CUTTINGS

Open the boxes upon arrival. Cuttings should be stuck as soon as possible. Cuttings may be temporarily stored overnight in open boxes at 45-50 F (7-10 C) with relative humidity above 70%. Keep all cutting label information and place these tags with the cuttings in propagation.

ROOTING UNROOTED CUTTINGS

Root Emergence: 7-10 days

Total Rooting Time: 4 weeks

Preparation Prior to Arrival of Cuttings: Clean and disinfect propagation area. Place rooting media on bench shortly before arrival of cuttings. Preservation of cutting quality is dependent upon how quickly cuttings are stuck.

Rooting Hormones: Rooting hormones generally are not needed if adequate bottom heating is used during propagation. If growers do decide to use rooting hormones, a 0.1% (1000 ppm) IBA concentration is a good starting point. Excess application of rooting hormones can cause burning and damage to cuttings.

Misting: Mist schedules vary depending on light and temperature conditions. After sticking, apply sufficient moisture to re-hydrate the cuttings and keep them from wilting. Cuttings should be hydrated and in a non-wilted stage within 24 hours after sticking. Capsil (spray adjuvant) can be sprayed on the cuttings 1-2 days after sticking to help in water re-hydration of the cuttings. Many growers combine the Capsil with an early fungicide application. Misting should be significantly reduced after roots begin to form on the cuttings.

Disease Control: A preventative fungicide spray a few days after sticking will help prevent Botrytis infections. Common fungicides include Decree, Chipco 26019, Daconil, Spectro, Heritage, and Medallion. A follow-up spray can be given about 5-7 days after the first application depending upon disease pressure. Plants can be given a fungicide drench after roots develop to prevent fungal root rot. Broad spectrum drenches, such as Subdue Maxx + Medallion or Truban + Cleary's 3336 (i.e. Banrot) work well to control a range of pathogens.

Moisture: Avoid over-saturated media and over-misting, especially under dark, cloudy conditions. Choose a propagation media that is well-drained and offers adequate aeration.

Ventilation: Avoid heavy drafts in the propagation area that can cause edges of benches to dry more quickly than the centers, especially early in the rooting process. After roots develop, air movement can be increased to reduce Botrytis infections.

Air Temperature: Can vary between 68-75 F (20-24 C) depending upon how much top (shoot) growth is desired. As rooting increases, air temperature generally should be reduced to control top growth and tone the cuttings.

Bottom Heat Temperature: The first three weeks bottom temperatures should be between 70-73 F (21-23 C). After roots are well developed, temperatures can be lowered to hold and tone the cuttings.

pH: 5.8-6.2

Media EC: Between 0.7-0.8 mS/cm (low nutrient charge)

Light: Maintain light levels between 1,000-1,200 f.c. for the first two weeks after sticking or until root development occurs. Light levels can be increased up to 3,000 f.c. as rooting increases and the cutting matures.

Fertilizer: Begin fertilization at 100 ppm N when roots become visible. Rates can be increased up to 200 ppm after roots become well developed. Use primarily Cal-Mag (calcium nitrate + magnesium nitrate) fertilizers in propagation to prevent unwanted stretch.

FINISHING ROOTED CUTTINGS

Corey Coreopsis is an upright grower with large golden-yellow flowers. It is a relatively slow starter during production, but then it begins to send out several shoots forming a bushy, upright plant. Because of its upright habit it is best grown in larger pots (i.e. 6-inch to gallons), but can be grown in smaller pots with appropriate chemical growth regulation. In the landscape, it makes an array of yellow flowers and is best used in ground beds. It can be used in large patio containers and mixed plantings, but will eventually get very tall and floppy and might need to be cut back periodically. It has excellent heat tolerance throughout the summer, but will also tolerate light freezes in early Spring and Fall.

Disease Prevention / Sanitation: Prior to arrival of rooted cuttings, have benches clean and disinfected. Try not to store rooted cuttings more than a day or two before transplanting.

Media: Select a porous media that drains well. Many good, well-drained commercial mixes can be used with coreopsis.

Pre-Plant: Make sure the media to be transplanted in is moist but not saturated. Don't plant cuttings into extremely dry media. Dribbling a small hole into the media will help in the transplanting process.

Transplanting: Transplant directly into the finished container with the rooting media slightly below the level of media in the containers. Make sure that the root ball is covered and that the cutting is situated in the center of the pot. Try not to hold rooted cuttings too long before transplanting or stretch will occur.

Media pH: 5.8-6.2

Moisture: Media should be allowed to dry moderately between irrigations. Corey Coreopsis forms an abundant root system and will need frequent irrigation when plants are mature.

Fertilizer: Corey Coreopsis is a moderate feeder. Use a rate of 150-200 ppm N with each irrigation and adjust rates as needed. Leach with clear water as needed to avoid fertilizer salt buildup. Corey Coreopsis grows best when using a mix of (or alternating with) Cal-Mag (i.e. 15-5-15, 14-4-14, etc.) and ammonium-containing (i.e. 20-10-20, 15-15-15, etc.) fertilizers.

Media EC: 1.8-2.2 mS/cm (in an SME, Saturated Media Extract)

Temperature: 65-75 F (18-24 C) Day and 55-65 F (13-18 C) Night

Light: 5,000-8,000 f.c. Corey Coreopsis grows best under high light conditions with moderate temperatures. It flowers best under long-day (greater than 12 hrs of daylength) conditions. Supplemental lighting can be used in northern climates under dark, cloudy conditions.

Pinching: Generally, pinching is not needed in propagation or early after transplant since plants stay fairly compact early on. Pinching can be given on plants grown in larger large containers with longer cropping times. This sometimes is the best alternative when plants are being grown very warm and are getting soft and over-grown. This mid to late pinching will delay flowering for several weeks.

Growth Regulators: Under cool to moderate temperatures, chemical growth regulators are usually not needed. Plants grown in small pots and under warm growing conditions, however, will benefit from PGR sprays. Sprays of Bonzi (3-6 ppm), Sumagic (2-4 ppm), and TopFlor (2-4 ppm) are effective in reducing height of Corey Coreopsis. These sprays, however, will result in slight to moderate flower delay.

Common Pests: There doesn't appear to be any major insect problems with Corey Coreopsis.

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Common Diseases: Botrytis of lower leaves can be a problem with over-head irrigation and under very tight spacing. Provide good spacing, adequate air flow, and use preventative fungicide sprays (similar fungicides as listed above in propagation) to prevent Botrytis. Corey can also develop powdery mildew under cool, wet conditions. Sprays of Strike, Systhane (Eagle), Pipro, Terraguard, Heritage, and others are effective in controlling powdery mildew outbreaks.

SCHEDULING

Rooted to 10cm finish: 6-7 weeks (1 plant/pot)

Rooted to 15cm finish: 8-9 weeks (1 plant/pot)

Rooted to 20cm finish: 10-11 weeks (1-2 plants/pot)

Rooted to 25cm basket finish: Not recommended

Rooted to 30cm basket finish: Not recommended

GARDEN PERFORMANCE

Garden Height: 45-76cm

Garden Width: 30-35cm

