CULTURE ADVICE

## How to fertilise your MINIS? Which pot size?

All the MINIS are fertilised differently depending on flowering periods and pot sizes.

The range of cyclamen varieties has become increasingly wide to adapt to different sales periods, weather conditions and pot sizes making it hard for horticulturists to get the quantities of fertiliser right.

Varieties with smaller growth need more nitrogen. We recommend during growing stage to adapt doses of fertiliser according to the nitrogen (in  $NO_3^-$  and  $N/K_2O$  form: 1/3) with a guideline between 25 ppm N and 100 ppm N.

The amounts of nitrogen may vary subject to the following 3 factors: variety, chosen flowering period and pot size.

Smartiz<sup>®</sup> needs to be fertilised more than Metis<sup>®</sup> during the same period in the same pot size to achieve the same plant diameter.

Please note that we strongly recommend to reduce nitrogen intake during the flowering stage.

Just reduce the E.C. but keep the same balance.

The table below states the fertiliser values in nitrogen. These are for reference only as factors like watering, substrate, lighting and pot type may affect amounts within the guidelines.

These factors influence the plants' final size.

		SOUTH CLIMATE TYPE		NORTH CLIMATE TYPE	
Variety	Pot size Ø cm	Summer/autumn growing stage ADT 20-25°C	Autumn flowering stage	Summer/autumn growing stage ADT 18-20°C	Autumn flowering stage
SMARTIZ®	6	25-50 ppm N	25 ppm N	50-75 ppm N	25-50 ppm N
SMARTIZ®	9	50-75 ppm N	25-50 ppm N	75-100 ppm N	50-75 ppm N
SMARTIZ®	10,5	75-100 ppm N	50-75 ppm N	100 ppm N	75-100 ppm N
METIS®	9	25-50 ppm N	25 ppm N	50-75 ppm N	25-50 ppm N
METIS®	10,5	50-75 ppm N	25-50 ppm N	75-100 ppm N	50-75 ppm N
METIS®	12	75-100 ppm N	50-75 ppm N	100 ppm N	75-100 ppm N

## Check your nitrogen amounts to strike the right balance between plant diameter and pot size!

Recommended amounts of nitrogen (N/K,O 1/3 ratio) subject to pot size, climate and growing season

## Fertiliser intake

If the first intake of fertiliser is delayed due to over-long rooting or too small a dose of fertiliser, it may speed up the flowering stage. This means small plants with a lower commercial value (tall floral stems).

On the other hand, if the first intake of fertiliser is too high then a production of excessive foliage can occur. This may delay or depreciate the flowering (floral stems that are too short) and cause botrytis.

## Choice of pot

Among the wide variety of pots on the market, we recommend you choose tall models at a  $5^{\circ}$  angle.

They have at least 10% more volume than shorter models with the same diameter. This means they have a better buffering effect without affecting the final density of the crop.

Depending on the watering system and its flow, these pots can keep the top of the pot dry thus restricting common botrytis problems within the heart of the plant.



