Crop Cultivation Sheet

Prunus lusitanica

**Cultivation notes from our specialists**

**Tips & Tricks**

**Prunus lusitanica**

- The quality of plants is mainly influenced by the starting material you use. For the right plant design later on in the growth cycle, we recommend to use well-branched cuttings or young plants. It is important that the foot of the cuttings shows wood (not green) for good callus formation.
- Start with high quality young plants: good roots, uniformity in design and good branching.
- Prunus lusitanica is not resistant to frost. We recommend to apply high K water soluble fertilizer schedules during September – October (and November in southern countries). Cultivation in greenhouses starts in spring (Northern Europe).
- After starting with high quality young plants, we recommend to:
  - Make sure the growing medium in the pots is constantly moist.
  - Only use water without sodium.
  - Cuttings: balance the greenhouse climate as much as possible.
  - Around cultivation actions (pruning, cutting, etc.): support root activation with 10g/m² Peters Professional Plant Starter.
  - Prunus lusitanica has high magnesium demands. Apply Agroleaf Power Mg during the second half of the season (Aug – Sept) mixed into tank mixes with fungicides.
  - Apply foliar feed in the evenings or late afternoon (high humidity and low irradiance).
  - Bear in mind that Prunus is sensitive to (deep) frosts (and cold nights in spring!).

**Crop Protection**

**Prunus lusitanica**

**Sciara**
Can occur during the cutting period, especially because this crop takes a few months to root. The quicker roots are developed, the less problems.

**Laurell Weevil** *(Othiorhynchus salicicola)*
As opposed to wine weevil, these insects are present during the day. Curative actions are required.

**Xanthomonas spp, Pseudomonas spp**
Work hygienically to prevent these bacterial leaf spot diseases. Use healthy young plants and ensure sufficient nutrition.

Everris International B.V. (UK, Netherlands, Germany) is certified according ISO – 9001.
Everris International B.V. Heerlen is also certified according ISO – 14001 and OHSAS – 18001.

Everris International B.V. is a legal entity under ICL Specialty Fertilizers.

ICL Specialty Fertilizers
P.O. Box 40
4190 CA Geldermalsen
The Netherlands
Tel.: +31 (0) 418 655 700
Fax: +31 (0) 418 655 795
Email: info@iclsf.com

www.icl-sf.com
**Prunus lusitanica**

**General information for cultivation:**

Prunus lusitanica is a widely known crop in Europe. The large increase in popularity came during the last decennium, when the crop started to be used as decoration on balconies and terraces. Total cultivation time from cuttings to sellable plants is 2 years.

**Cultivation cards:**

**Growing medium and water**

- Prunus lusitanica ‘Angustifolia’ require a soil pH around 5.0.
- Ensure constant moisture in the growing medium (no excesses).
- Use a substrate that has easy re-wetting and de-watering properties.
- Keep an eye on water temperature. Prunus lusitanica requires medium-high temperatures for development. Prunus grown inside greenhouses or tunnels can be stressed when the water is too cold (<10°C, i.e. well water from depth).

**Starting phase**

- Prunus lusitanica can be potted during spring. It requires medium to high nutrition levels provided by Osmocote Exact Hi.End full rates or base rates, see next page.
- Prunus lusitanica is not frost-resistant. We recommend to keep the plants in a greenhouse until May.
- After roots are developed, the plants need increased nutrition for branching, mainly nitrogen, during spring.
- Make sure you have anti-frost protection in place during spring!
- The main growth phases are in late spring and during September – October.
- Prune the cuttings before potting for highest quality.
- Plants cultivated outdoors in peat-reduced substrates:
  - mix in 1 g/l Osmocote CalMag (on top of Osmocote Exact Hi.End).
- When rooting starts: 5 g/m² Peters Professional Plant Starter (10-52-10), twice in 14 days.
- After winter, for compact growth and strength: 15 g/m² Peters Excel Plant Finisher (15-5-30).
- Winter potting: do not use any water-soluble starter fertilizer.

**Growing phase**

- Added values in plant quality are length, branching, strength and green color, so focus nutrition in the finishing phase on a high In schedule (N:K ratio 1:3).
- Make sure you add a water soluble fertilizer that is high in magnesium. Prunus also needs a large amount of trace elements.
- Winter: for strength and finishing: 15 g/m² Universal Violet (10-10-30) in August-September.
- After winter, support rooting: 5 g/m² Peters Professional Power F (9-40-25).
- Balanced growth and color: 15-20 g/m² Peters Professional Plant Finisher (15-5-30).
- Ensure sufficient calcium levels (CaNO₃ in tank A).
- For strength and finishing: 15 g/m² Universal Violet (10-10-30) in August-September.

**Finishing phase**

- After good root development, support branching: 15 g/m²/week Universal Green (23-5-10).
- Prune the cuttings before potting for highest quality.
- For strength and finishing: 15 g/m² Universal Violet (10-10-30) in August-September.
- Balanced and color: 15-20 g/m² Peters Professional Plant Finisher (15-5-30).
- For winter, support rooting: 5 g/m² Peters Professional Plant Starter (10-52-10).
- Balanced growth and color: 15-20 g/m² Universal Blue (18-11-18).
- Ensure sufficient calcium levels (CaNO₃ in tank A).

**Recommendations for Cultivation**

**Cuttings**

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**Young plants | P 9 cm - P 10,5 cm**

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**Deliverable plants (in this example deliverable in spring)**

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For a tailored advice for your situation, please contact your ICL Specialty Fertilizers advisor. As circumstances can differ and as application of products is beyond our control, ICL Specialty Fertilizers cannot be held responsible for any negative results. Before a new rate, product or application method is used, a small scale trial is recommended.
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