

Culture Sheet: *Technical Information for Growers*

Name: *Helleborus* (hybrids) **Common name:** Hellebore, Lenten rose

Scheduling Information

Available sizes: LP32 **Sales Window:** summer (hybrid varieties)

Plug size	LP32
Finish size	Trade 1 gal
Weeks to finish	10-12
When to plant	Early fall-mid fall Late winter-spring

Growing on to Finish

Media:	Professional potting media
pH:	5.5-5.8
Irrigation:	Keep plants moderately moist but not wet
Fertilizer:	Light-moderate feeders- Feed during the cool growing season when plants are active. Apply 50-75 ppm N at each watering. Monitor EC levels in soil to avoid root burning from elevated salts. Avoid feeding during the summer as plants are inactive.
Light:	Provide 50% shade to prevent stress from sunlight
Temperature:	Growing: 50-55F days/ 40-45F nights
Pest & Disease:	Scale can be a problem. Crow rot, root rot, botrytis
Vernalization:	Cold temperatures required for active growth. Force at 45-55 degrees for best flower performance.

Grower Tips:

- Can be sold the same season as a green plant. Expect only 10-15% will flower the following spring. Helleborus must be mature to achieve consistent flowering. After the first season expect 10-15% to flower. After the second season more consistent flowering will appear.
- Helleborus prefers cool temperatures and shaded conditions. They put on most of their growth in early spring and then again in fall. Summer potting is not recommended.
- Push pots together tightly during the summer to keep roots cool.
- Reflective aluminum shade cloth works well to keep the crop cool in the summer.
- Avoid overfeeding and overwatering in the summer months when plants are inactive.

To Overwinter:

Helleborus grow under cool conditions.

- Overwinter in a coldframe with white poly.
- Be sure to vent as needed so as to avoid an early warming period.
- Bait for rodents.
- Avoid overly wet conditions from condensation.
- As temperatures rise above 35° F begin to space the crop.

Disclaimer: Cultural information is provided as a guide only. North Creek Nurseries does not guarantee the exact results, as growth and finish times may vary depending upon your location, climate, cultural practices and other influences. Always check manufacturers' labels for approved rates and usage instructions when applying fertilizer or other chemicals.

Source: Walter's Gardens



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