

# Achillea

Species and cultivars tested	We have tested <i>A. clypeolata</i> x 'Moonshine' ' <b>Anthea</b> ', <i>A. filipendulina</i> ' <b>Cloth of Gold</b> ', <i>A. filipendulina</i> x <i>clypeolata</i> ' <b>Coronation Gold</b> ', <i>A. clypeolata</i> x 'Taygetea' ' <b>Moonshine</b> ', <i>A. millefolium</i> x 'Taygetea' ' <b>Paprika</b> ' and <i>A. ptarmica</i> ' <b>The Pearl</b> ' - all are good garden plants though Cloth of Gold, Coronation Gold and The Pearl are not impressive in a container. Juvenility does not appear to be a problem except Cloth of Gold, a seed-propagated cultivar, which must be bulked first.					
Starting Material	All cultivars were asexually-propagated except Cloth of Gold, which was propagated by seed. Anthea arrived in a 32-cell plug tray. Coronation Gold, Moonshine and Paprika arrived in 72-cell trays and Cloth of Gold arrived in 128-cell trays. The Pearl arrived as bare-root plants.					
Response to cold treatment	Category	Cold beneficial for all vegetative cultivars Cold required for 'Cloth of Gold'				
	<u>Cold Response</u> Time-to-flower Flower number	All plants flowered faster and more uniformly after cold. Moonshine flowered best after 6 weeks of cold. Cloth of Gold flowered best after 10 weeks of cold. Coronation Gold and Moonshine become essentially DN after cold. Paprika and The Pearl are DN with or without cold, but were more compact with more lateral shoots after cold. Anthea required LD with or without cold.				
	Recommendation	6 weeks cold - Moonshine, 10 weeks cold - Cloth of Gold. Other cultivars are 15 weeks of cold (only cold treatments tested). Cold is useful for Paprika, but not necessary.				
Response to photoperiod	Category	LD required - Cloth of Gold and Anthea LD beneficial - All other cultivars				
	<u>Photoperiod Response</u> Time-to-flower, Flower number & Height	Under LD, all plants flowered and days to flower decreased. Anthea only flowered under photoperiods $\geq$ 16-h or 4-h NI. After cold, all other cultivars flowered under every photoperiod. Inflorescence number remained about the same in all photoperiods.				
	Recommended photoperiod for flowering	>, or equal to, 16-h with supplemental lighting or 4-h NI				
	Recommended photoperiod for bulking	If desired, bulk under SD (<, or equal to, 14-h) before or after cold, or after flowering. Cloth of Gold bulks best under SD <, or equal to, 9-h.				
Height Control	Natural Height	9" (Moonshine) -30" (Cloth of Gold) (25-75 cm) -Most cultivars were between 14-18" (35-45 cm) - see next page				
	Effective Growth Retardants	Not tested				
	Limited Induction	Not tested				
Timing  Under 4-h NI, 15 weeks cold (6 weeks cold Moonshine) Forcing Temp at 20C	Temperature	Anthea	Coronation Gold	Moonshine	Paprika	The Pearl
	Days to VB	27	21	10	20	5
	Days VB to Flower	21	32	15	21	26
	Days to Flower	48	53	25	41	31
	Weeks to Flower	7	8	3.5	6	4.5
Forcing Temperature	68C (20C). Anthea was faster to flower as temperature was lowered to 62C (17C).					
Nodes formed during forcing	Cloth of Gold = 25 . Moonshine = 23. The Pearl = 32.					
Production Notes	Plants wilt easily under warm sunny conditions. The taller cultivars (Anthea, Cloth of Gold, Coronation Gold, Paprika, The Pearl) may require staking to keep stems upright.					
Cultural Notes	The Pearl is extremely susceptible to powdery mildew. Other cultivars are relatively pest and disease free. On Cloth of Gold, immature plants result in low flower percentages.					
Postharvest considerations	Ship as soon as first flowers open. Plants will continue to bloom throughout the growing season in the garden. Stems make nice cut flowers for arrangements or for drying.					