



Nook & Nature

By Neha Kunal Deshmukh

FERTILIZER CYCLE & CARE GUIDE

Simple steps for healthy , happy plants



BRAHMAKAMAL

(SAUSSUREA OBVALLATA)



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1. Fertilizer Cycle (Stage-wise)

1 Planting / Sapling Stage (March–Jun)

Soil Mix: Equal parts of garden soil + sand + leaf compost + cow dung.

► Add a handful of bone meal or neem cake powder for slow-release nutrition.

Pot/Location: Use a 10–12 inch deep pot or well-drained rocky soil (if outdoors).

Watering: Lightly moist soil — avoid waterlogging as roots are prone to rot.

💧 Fertilizer Tip: Add organic compost (500 g per plant) at planting time.

2 Vegetative Growth Stage (June–August)

Feeding Frequency: Once every 20–25 days.

Fertilizer Mix:

→ NPK 19:19:19 (2–3 g per liter of water) or

→ Organic liquid feed (vermicompost tea or seaweed extract).

Sunlight: Partial shade with bright indirect light (like north-facing balcony or Himalayan slopes).

Watering: Twice a week; allow topsoil to dry slightly between watering.

🌿 Hack: Mix a small spoon of Epsom salt (magnesium sulfate) in 2 liters of water once a month for lush green growth.

3 Flowering Stage (August–October)

🌸 The magical time! Brahmakamal blooms once a year, mostly during monsoon and early autumn.

Pre-bloom Boost: In July–August, switch to a phosphorus-rich fertilizer (NPK 10:26:26) — 2 g per liter of water.

During Bud Formation: Reduce nitrogen and feed liquid bone meal or banana peel fertilizer every 15 days.

Watering: Keep evenly moist but never soggy.

Temperature: Prefers 10°C–25°C.



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2. Caring Tips

- ✓ Sunlight: Full sunlight to partial shade; thrives best in 5–7 hrs of sunlight.
- ✓ Soil: Sandy loam or red soil with good drainage.
- ✓ Watering: Moderate; drought-tolerant once mature.
- ✓ Temperature: Prefers 25°C–35°C, common in tropical/subtropical climates.
- ✓ Spacing: Plant 12–18 inches apart for ground cover or beds.
- ✓ Pests/Diseases: Rarely affected; sometimes attacked by aphids — use neem oil spray.
- ✓ Growth: Spreading herb up to 1–1.5 ft tall with creeping branches.

3. Pro Hacks & Nursery Tips

- 🌱 Bloom Boost Hack: Use banana peel compost or bone meal tea during July–August to trigger blooming.
- 🌱 Location Hack: Keep plant in a cool, dim area at night — it mimics its natural Himalayan habitat.
- 🌱 Container Tip: Terracotta pots work best — allow breathability and prevent root rot.
- 🌱 Pruning Hack: After bloom, remove dead stems to channel energy into root rejuvenation.
- 🌱 Spiritual Tip: Brahmakamal blooms often coincide with auspicious nights (like Mahashivratri or Navratri), making it a divine symbol in Indian households.

4. Blooming Pattern in India 🌻

Flowering Season: July to October, once a year.

Blooming Time: Usually at night (after 8 PM); flower fully opens around midnight and withers by dawn.

Flower Color: Pure white with a light pink hue and heavenly fragrance.

Plant Type: Perennial succulent herb found in Himalayan regions (3,000–4,500 m altitude).

Lifespan: Long-lived; can thrive 5–10 years with proper care.

Watering Needs: Low; prefer semi-dry soil between watering.

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