



Nook & Nature

By Neha Kunal Deshmukh

FERTILIZER CYCLE & CARE GUIDE

Simple steps for healthy , happy plants



CHRYSANTHEMUM



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11. Fertilizer Cycle (Stage-wise)

Planting / Cutting Stage (June–July, before monsoon)

Soil mix: 40% garden soil + 30% compost + 20% sand + 10% cocopeat.

At planting → Add bone meal (20–30 g per plant) + cow dung compost (500 g per plant).

Pinch the top of seedlings after 4–6 leaves → encourages bushy growth.

Vegetative Growth Stage (July–Sept)

Every 15–20 days → Apply liquid fertilizer NPK 19:19:19 (2 g/litre water).

Add vermicompost (200 g per plant) monthly.

Bud Formation Stage (Sept–Oct)

Switch to phosphorus & potassium-rich fertilizer (NPK 10:26:26 or 0:52:34, 2 g/litre water every 10–12 days).

Add banana peel fertilizer or wood ash once a month.

Reduce nitrogen → too much = more leaves, fewer flowers.

Flowering Stage (Nov–Jan)

Feed every 10 days with liquid fertilizer rich in P & K.

Spray Epsom salt (1 tsp/litre water) once a month for healthy blooms.

Post-Flowering / Dormancy (Feb–April)

After flowers fade, cut stems short.

Fertilize lightly with compost once.

Stop heavy watering & let plants rest.

Save suckers/cuttings for next season.



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2. Caring Tips

- ✓ Sunlight – Needs 5–6 hours of direct sunlight daily for big blooms.
- ✓ Watering – Water regularly but avoid waterlogging (roots rot easily).
- ✓ Soil – Slightly acidic, well-drained soil is ideal.
- ✓ Pinching & Pruning – Pinch tips 2–3 times before bud stage → makes plants bushy with more flowers.
- ✓ Container Growing – Best grown in 10–12 inch pots.
- ✓ Pest Control – Spray neem oil every 15 days for aphids & whiteflies.

3. Pro Hacks 🌿

- 🌿 Pinching Hack → Regular pinching before budding = maximum blooms.
- 🌿 Banana Peel Powder → Adds potassium → brighter flowers.
- 🌿 Bud Control Trick → For big showy flowers, allow only 1–2 buds per stem; for cluster flowers, let all buds remain.
- 🌿 Mulching Hack → Use cocopeat/dry leaves to maintain soil moisture.
- 🌿 Propagation Hack → Use suckers/cuttings from old plants → stronger next-season growth.

4. Blooming Pattern in India 🌸

Main Season: November to January (winter).

Duration: Flowers last 4–6 weeks with proper care.

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