



Nook & Nature

By Neha Kunal Deshmukh

FERTILIZER CYCLE & CARE GUIDE

Simple steps for healthy , happy plants



FRANGIPANI

(PLUMERIA)



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1. Fertilizer Cycle (Stage-wise)

Planting Stage (Feb–April or July–Sept in India)

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

At planting → Add bone meal (30 g) OR neem cake (50 g) + cow dung compost (500 g per plant).

Ensure good drainage (Champa hates waterlogging).

Vegetative Growth Stage (March–May)

Feed every 20–25 days with balanced fertilizer (NPK 19:19:19, 2 g/litre water).

Add vermicompost (250 g per plant) monthly.

Avoid overwatering — water only when the topsoil is dry.

Budding & Flowering Stage (April–October)

Switch to phosphorus & potassium-rich fertilizer (NPK 10:26:26 or 0:52:34, 2 g/litre water every 15 days).

Add banana peel fertilizer or bone meal monthly → enhances fragrance & bloom count.

Spray Epsom salt (1 tsp/litre water) monthly → improves leaf color & flower size.

Dormant / Resting Stage (Nov–Jan)

Reduce watering to once every 15–20 days.

Stop liquid fertilizers — just add a thin layer of compost once a month.

Tree may shed leaves; it's natural.



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2. Caring Tips

- ✓ Sunlight – Needs 6–8 hours of direct sunlight daily for full flowering.
- ✓ Watering – Moderate; water only when soil feels dry. Overwatering causes root rot.
- ✓ Soil – Well-drained, sandy-loam or slightly acidic soil.
- ✓ Spacing – If planted in ground, keep 8–10 feet apart; it grows into a medium tree.
- ✓ Container Growing – Choose 20–24 inch pot with drainage holes.
- ✓ Pests – Watch for mealybugs, aphids, and scale insects → neem oil spray every 2 weeks.

3. Pro Hacks 🌿

- 🌿 Propagation Hack → Grows easily from cuttings. Let cutting dry for 5–7 days before planting → prevents rot.
- 🌿 Bloom Booster → Use banana peel + bone meal mix once a month → big, fragrant flowers
- 🌿 Pruning Trick → Prune lightly after winter → encourages branching & more blooms.
- 🌿 Leaf Drop Hack → Don't panic if leaves drop in winter — it's a natural rest phase.
- 🌿 Pot Hack → In pots, use a gritty, cactus-type mix for perfect drainage.

4. Blooming Pattern in India 🌻

Season: Spring to late autumn (March–October).

Peak Bloom: May–August (during monsoon).

Colors: White, yellow, pink, red, multi-color hybrids.

Fragrance: Strongly sweet, especially at dusk.

Lifespan: Long-lived perennial tree (20+ years).

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