



Nook & Nature

By Neha Kunal Deshmukh

FERTILIZER CYCLE & CARE GUIDE

Simple steps for healthy , happy plants



PERIWINKLE



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1. Fertilizer Cycle (Stage-wise)

Planting Stage (First Month)

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

At planting → Add cow dung compost (500 g per plant) or vermicompost (200 g per plant).

Growth Stage (Seedling / Small Plants)

Every 20–25 days → Apply liquid fertilizer (NPK 19:19:19, 1–2 g/litre water).

Add neem cake powder (25–30 g per plant) once in 2 months.

Flowering Stage (Year-Round)

Every 15 days → Use low-nitrogen, high-phosphorus fertilizer (NPK 10:26:26 or 0:52:34, 1–2 g/litre water).

Add banana peel fertilizer or wood ash monthly for continuous blooming.

Maintenance Stage

Refresh soil with vermicompost or leaf compost every 2–3 months.

Avoid overfertilizing → excess nitrogen reduces flowering.

2. Caring Tips

- ✓ Sunlight – Loves full sun (6–8 hours) but can also grow in partial shade.
- ✓ Watering – Drought-tolerant; water 2–3 times a week. Avoid overwatering (roots rot easily).
- ✓ Soil – Well-drained sandy-loamy soil is best.
- ✓ Pruning – Pinch tips of young plants → makes them bushier. Light pruning after heavy flowering keeps the plant healthy.
- ✓ Container Growing – Grows well in 12–14 inch pots. Perfect for balcony & terrace gardens.
- ✓ Pests – Generally pest-free but watch for mealybugs & aphids. Use neem oil spray monthly.

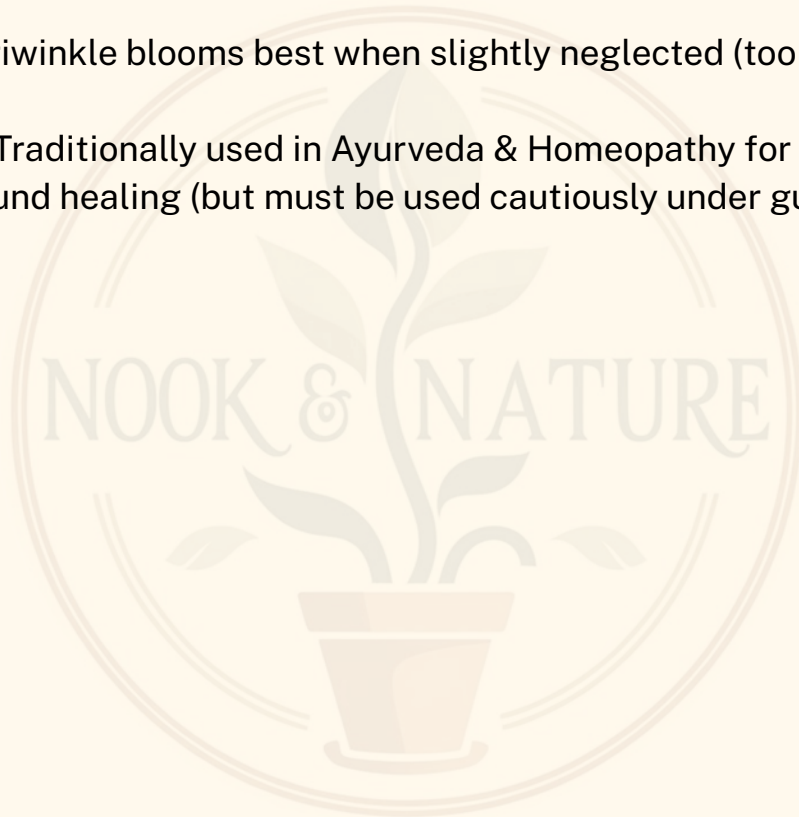


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3. Pro Hacks 🌿

- 🌿 Cutting Hack – Periwinkle propagates easily from stem cuttings; dip cuttings in honey/aloe gel → faster rooting.
- 🌿 Deadheading Trick – Remove dry flowers regularly → plant keeps producing new blooms.
- 🌿 Banana Peel Powder – Sprinkle dried banana peel powder around the plant → long-lasting blooms.
- 🌿 Neglect Hack – Periwinkle blooms best when slightly neglected (too much water & fertilizer = fewer flowers).
- 🌿 Medicinal Bonus – Traditionally used in Ayurveda & Homeopathy for blood sugar control, hypertension, and wound healing (but must be used cautiously under guidance).



📍 Plot No. 24/2 Balaji Lucky Point, Old Cotton Market Road,
Shree Agro Agencies, Balaji Lucky Point, Amravati, Amravati,
Maharashtra, 444601

📞 +91 9284008858

✉ support@nookandnature.in

🌐 www.nookandnature.in

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