



Nook & Nature

By Neha Kunal Deshmukh

FERTILIZER CYCLE & CARE GUIDE

Simple steps for healthy , happy plants



SAUSSUREA OBVALLATA

(BRAHMAKAMAL)



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1. Fertilizer Cycle (Stage-wise)

1 Planting / Sapling Stage (Spring: March–June)

Soil: Well-drained, rocky or sandy loam with organic matter.

Planting:

Use raised beds or deep pots (10–12 inches).

Mix soil with 2 kg compost + 50 g bone meal.

Watering: Lightly moist soil; avoid waterlogging to prevent root rot.

💧 Initial Fertilizer: Apply organic compost (500 g per plant) at planting.

2 Vegetative Growth Stage (June–August)

Feed every 20–25 days with:

→ Balanced NPK 10:10:10 (2–3 g per liter of water) or organic liquid feed.

Sunlight: Partial shade with bright indirect light; avoid harsh direct sun.

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

🌿 Pro Tip: Mix a pinch of Epsom salt (magnesium sulfate) once a month for strong green foliage.

3 Flowering Stage (August–October)

Flowering Season: Blooms once a year, mostly at night.

Pre-flowering (July–August):

→ Apply Phosphorus-rich fertilizer (NPK 10:26:26 or bone meal, 2–3 g per liter) to stimulate buds.

During flowering: Keep soil evenly moist; maintain cool night temperatures (15–20°C).

Light: Indirect sunlight during the day; blooms better in cool, dim conditions.

🌟 Blooming Hack: Night bloom is enhanced when plant is exposed to cool and slightly humid night air, simulating Himalayan habitat.

4 Post-Bloom Care (October–February)

Watering: Minimal; once every 10–15 days to prevent complete drying.

Fertilizer: Stop feeding till spring.

Pruning: Remove dead stems and leaves lightly after flowering.

Temperature Protection: Keep indoors or in controlled environment if temperature drops below 5°C.



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2. Caring Tips

- ✓ Sunlight: Partial shade; bright indirect sunlight is ideal.
- ✓ Soil: Loose, well-draining, slightly alkaline soil.
- ✓ Watering: Moderate; avoid soggy soil.
- ✓ Pot Size: Deep pots (10–12 inches) with drainage holes.
- ✓ Temperature: Cool to moderate (10°C–25°C).
- ✓ Humidity: Prefers moderate humidity; mist occasionally in dry conditions.
- ✓ Propagation: From rhizomes or stem cuttings in spring.

🌸 3. Pro Hacks & Nursery Tips

- 🌿 Flower Booster: Apply liquid bone meal or banana peel fertilizer during July–August.
- 🌿 Location Hack: Keep in cool, dim night conditions for optimal blooming.
- 🌿 Container Tip: Terracotta pots preferred — allow soil breathability.
- 🌿 Pruning Hack: Trim spent stems after bloom to rejuvenate roots.
- 🌿 Cultural Tip: Symbolizes spiritual awakening and divine blessing, often associated with festivals like Mahashivratri.

4. Blooming Pattern in India 🌻

Flowering Season: August to October, once a year.

Blooming Time: Mostly at night, flowers fully open by midnight and fade by morning.

Flower Color & Aroma: Pure white with a pinkish hue, slightly fragrant.

Plant Type: Perennial, alpine herb found in high-altitude Himalayas (3,000–4,500 m).

Lifespan: Long-lived; can survive 5–10 years in cultivation with proper care.

Watering Needs: Low; prefers semi-dry soil between waterings.

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