



CULTIVATING THE WINE GARDEN

HANDBOOK FOR THE CARE OF YOUR
GREEN CORNER

2026

“The beauty of the world
is largely made up of what
we have managed to
cultivate within ourselves.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Cultivating the Wine Garden
HANDBOOK FOR THE CARE
OF YOUR GREEN CORNER is part of the
PRK in COLORS project, whose main
objective is the care of the Rotaliana
Königsberg landscape by all its
inhabitants.

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THE ROTALIANA KÖNIGSBERG THE WINE GARDEN

This handbook is promoted by the **Consorzio Turistico Piana Rotaliana Königsberg**, the organisation that, through strategic, organisational and operational decisions, contributes to the development, communication and promotion of the tourism offer of this territory.

During 2022, a tourism development process was launched, for which a participatory methodology was chosen so as to listen to and actively represent all the people of our community, which includes the municipalities (from north to south) of Roveré della Luna, Mezzocorona, Mezzolombardo, San Michele all'Adige, Terre d'Adige and Lavis.

The need for this process arises from the awareness that the Rotaliana Königsberg territory has so much to offer.

Much is hidden or not valued!

It is a place where life is good and where wines and products of the highest quality are 'created'. However, one element is missing that can highlight these resources and make it possible to develop them *first and foremost* for residents and then also for guests who wish to discover this corner of Trentino.

A beauty that those who live here, like us, often take for granted and therefore sometimes do not care for properly.

With this process we wanted to identify, together with people and therefore starting from those who live and work in Rotaliana Königsberg, the elements that distinguish us and make us unique. Thanks to the group work, 7 success factors were identified, namely: 7 unique features that we have, that are part of our territory but that we must develop in a joint and continuous way.

One of these seven success factors is the 'Wine Garden'. We all, in fact, feel like inhabitants of the 'most beautiful wine garden in Europe', as Cesare Battisti wrote at the beginning of the last century.

In more than a century the landscape has changed a great deal and the impact of human activity has been significant, although not always in positive terms. Thanks to the protection of agricultural land, especially for vineyards and orchards, the landscape has been partly preserved and it is our duty to continue to safeguard and enhance it. In the future we

would like a Piana Rotaliana Königsberg that strikes for its landscape made of vineyards and animated by water and colours. A true garden, bordered by vertical rocky walls and gentle hills, blooming and well-kept throughout the seasons and easily walkable from one end to the other.

This is the reason why this handbook was created: to bring this beautiful garden to life, each one of us needs to do our part and, even in a small way, make our territory unique and colourful.



BEYOND AESTHETICS THE BENEFITS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Protection and care of the environment

Cultivating various nectar-bearing plants makes the environment more welcoming for beneficial insects, such as bees. The survival and health of pollinators are severely threatened by numerous dangers, such as pollution, climate change and habitat depletion. Perhaps something can be done... for example by planting in the garden, in the vegetable patch or on the balcony flowers that can provide food for insects. Furthermore, the plants on our balconies, like the trees in the gardens, can have an impact, more or less significant depending on the species, in counteracting pollution. They act as natural barriers against carbon dioxide, fine dust and other harmful substances, and they emit negative ions and pleasant aromas thanks to terpenes. In this way you will help not only the insects, but also your health. Finally, trees and shrubs around houses can help to ease the heat in urban areas

which in recent years have recorded increasingly higher temperatures. They create shade, humidity and oxygen, counteracting the absorption of solar rays by concrete.

The air we breathe is charged with electrical energy and therefore rich in positive ions (+) and negative ions (-); the perfect balance between them ensures our well-being and is achieved when there are about 1000 – 1500 negative ions per cubic centimetre in the air. For most of our lives we live in places where we are exposed to various environmental charges due to: household appliances, air conditioning systems, computers, cigarette smoke and insufficient ventilation, which cause a great increase of positive ions in the air. To restore the balance, the air must be enriched with negative ions. Terpenes are biomolecules, that is, organic compounds, present in many plants and produced by some insects. Their primary function is to give the plant, especially the resin on it, a particular fragrance that distinguishes it from others.

Colours of Nature and Well-Being

The Beauty of Nature has the extraordinary ability to give people pleasant positive sensations, also thanks to its shapes and colours, which can contribute to psychophysical well-being by rebalancing our body. The light vibrations and electromagnetic waves of which colours are composed are potentially capable of acting on the improvement of mood, mental and psychological abilities and even on the functioning of the immune system. Bringing plants and flowers inside and around our homes is therefore undoubtedly a precious gift to give ourselves to improve personal well-being, that of our loved ones and of all those who, observing them, perhaps passing by a balcony or a flowering garden, can marvel and freely and joyfully benefit from them. Surrounding oneself with beautiful, harmonious, simple and natural things helps the mind to feel good and relax, drives away stress and tension, and makes us more inclined to good humour and a positive attitude. Even at home, on the terrace and in the garden it is therefore very important to choose to

surround oneself, throughout all seasons, with colourful flowers, a natural and positive symbol of rebirth, energy and beauty. The choice of shades is almost always guided by preferences intimately linked to our emotions, our memories and our personality. However, there are also various studies on the symbolism and stimulating potential of colours that one can draw inspiration from, when choosing the plants to grow, to encourage the positive sensations we wish to evoke.

Below you will find some general indications that can help and guide the choice.

The colour **GREEN**, the most common in nature, is generally used to create a relaxing environment, which brings great energy. It is the colour of hope and harmony and, thanks to its calming effect on the nervous system, it also stimulates concentration, because it is at the centre of the colour spectrum and therefore in a position of absolute balance.

The colour **WHITE** is the synthesis of all colours, it is the colour of perfection and completeness. In colour psychology it is associated with purity and cleanliness. White blooms

white symbolise light and creation and stimulate genuineness and sincerity.

PINK flowers usually evoke feelings of trust, a sense of welcome and optimism towards the future, easing feelings of anger and aggression.

YELLOW has the power to instil happiness, joy and protection. It recalls the image of the sun, gold and light, so it is able to cheer up and give creative inspiration.

ORANGE radiates an irrepressible and positive energy with antidepressant power and is beneficial for the ability to generate enthusiasm.

The shades of **RED** evoke strength, vitality and passion and counteract sadness. Red has the ability to convey strength

Every colour has the ability to generate particular effects and benefits in the body. Knowing the real reactions and the usefulness of each colour on oneself can be very useful to encourage the desired response in our body and increase our psychophysical well-being.

Whatever type of flowers we choose, and in any combination of colours, it will still be beautiful and original and above all extremely useful to brighten the world, because an explosion of colours is always synonymous with happiness!

vital, both mental and physical, given its ability to support passions and increase courage and joy; it is also able to stimulate blood pressure, heart rate and breathing.

The shades of the **BLUE** spectrum have a calming, soothing and refreshing effect: this colour recalls the sky, clarity, fidelity and harmony and helps to lower blood pressure by slowing the heartbeat and breathing, producing a calming and relaxing effect that promotes rest and balance.

Finally, **PURPLE** is the colour of spirituality and meditation, it encourages calm and is a precious ally to protect oneself from insomnia and anxiety.



SOME TIPS FOR A GREEN, VERY GREEN THUMB!



Soil

The choice of soil where our plants will grow is fundamental. A good soil is composed of several elements that must be listed on the label, just like the food we eat. These elements are peat, wood and coconut fibres, humus, perlite (= natural and extremely porous volcanic glass) and other components that modify the soil structure, creating an aerated substrate that is chemically balanced, that is, with a pH suitable for plant growth.

Warning! The use of fertilisers containing soil amendments is not recommended, as these substances have physical and chemical characteristics unsuitable for plant development.



Watering

There is no precise rule for watering our plants. The secret lies in observing the soil: it should never be too dry, but not too wet either. It is very important to make sure there is no water stagnation.



Fertilising

For seasonal flowering plants the fertiliser and the frequency of application play a fundamental role. Take the Petunia Vista Bubblegum as an example. This splendid Petunia grows very quickly and flowers easily; to help it, every 1 or 2 weeks you should use a fertiliser for flowering plants, containing potassium, which is preferable to those in which the main component is nitrogen.



Plants

The choice of plant is as important as the choice of soil. The form in which the plant appears is in fact a determining factor in guiding your decision. To better understand, let's take an example: violets. We expect them to have a compact appearance, with intensely coloured leaves and fairly short stems. If instead we find leaves with a light green colour and tall, lopsided stems, then growth has not occurred properly, due to a lack of fertilising, too little space left between one plant and another, or temperatures that are too high. Furthermore, the colour of the leaves strongly depends, but not exclusively, on the fertilisation carried out by the grower during cultivation: it is therefore better to choose plants with bright leaves of a beautiful, intense and uniform green.



Pots

The pot in which the plant is grown must guarantee a sufficient amount of roots so that, once repotted, it manages to take root quickly, without stress, and develop in the shortest possible time. It is therefore easy to understand how the quantity of roots is fundamental for the speed of plant development. It is best to choose a pot with a diameter of at least 10 cm or 14 cm. In 4 cm packs there is little soil and so it will take more time to reach a plant of the desired size.

For any doubt or advice, your trusted florists and nurserymen are waiting for you in their garden centres!

PLANTS FOR OUR GREEN CORNERS

In the following pages, we will guide you through a selection of 15 easy-to-grow plants, sorted by the ideal month of the year to start growing them. You will find both perennial plants, which last several years, and annuals, with a short life cycle and which adapt to any space: balcony boxes (railing planters), baskets (hanging pots), pots and gardens.

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PRIMROSE

Perennial plant

There are many varieties, from single to double flowers, low or tall, used as perennials or as annuals

Where to use

Gardens, balcony boxes

COLOURS:



Flowering

JANUARY
FEBRUARY
MARCH
APRIL
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER



Exposure

Sun in winter, partial shade-shade from spring



Water

The soil must always be slightly moist



Care

Soil

Universal

Fertilising Fertilise

from June to autumn with slow-release fertiliser

Did you know?

The name comes from the Latin "primus", as it is the first flowering of the year, the one that marks the arrival of spring

PHOTO BOUQUET PERFECT™
"BLUE RIPPLES"
PROVEN WINNERS USA WEBSITE



PANSY

Perennial plant

There are over 500 species and they are commonly divided into large flowers or small flowers

Where to use

Gardens, balcony boxes

COLOURS:



Flowering

JANUARY
FEBRUARY
MARCH
APRIL
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER



Exposure

Full sun,
partial shade.
Loves the cold



Water

The soil must always
be slightly moist



Care

Soil

Universal

Fertilising

Every three weeks,
do not exceed, too
much can lead to
elongation of the
shoots

PHOTO DELTA YELLOW
WITH PURPLE WING
PROVEN WINNERS USA

Did you know?

The flowers are edible and can be
used to decorate dishes



NEMESIA SUNSATIA

Annual plant

It withstands low temperatures well,
in valley bottoms it is also planted
in mid-February

Where to use

Baskets, balcony boxes

COLOURS:



Flowering

JANUARY
FEBRUARY
MARCH
APRIL
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER



Exposure

Sun or partial sun, at
least 6 hours a day



Water

Wait for the soil to
dry out before
watering



Care

Soil

Universal, for
repotting it is best
to use light soils
that prevent
stagnation

Fertilising

Every two weeks

PHOTO TRIOMIO
SUNSATIA
BEAUTY PSENNER

Did you know?

There are varieties of upright fragrant
Nemesia that form very ornamental
little bushes. The flowers are
self-cleaning, so no need to remove them



GERANIUM FUERTE DEL FUEGO

Perennial plant used as annual

There are over 250 species; in Aflovit floriculture you can find Geranium macranthum, ivy and zonal, all three need the same care

Where to use

Gardens, baskets, balcony boxes

COLOURS:



Flowering

JANUARY
FEBRUARY
MARCH
APRIL
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER



Exposure

Full sun, in partial shade flowering is reduced



Water

Demanding, in summer water daily



Care

Soil

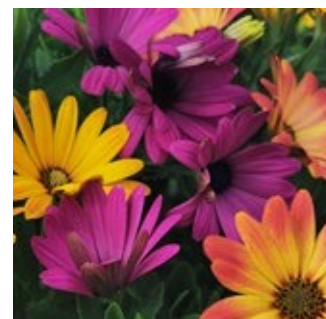
Not too heavy, with good water retention and good porosity

Fertilising

Every week, or every two if it is too hot

Did you know?

Some species are used as a barrier against mosquitoes, while geranium oil is used as a tonic and anti-inflammatory



OSTEOSPERMUM SPRINGSTAR

Perennial plant

Also known as "African daisy" for its origin in southern Africa, it appears as a bush with flowers similar to giant daisies

Where to use

Gardens, balcony boxes

COLOURS:



Flowering

JANUARY
FEBRUARY
MARCH
APRIL
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER



Exposure

Sun, partial sun



Water

Wait for the soil to dry out before watering



Care

Soil

Better if draining to avoid stagnation

Fertilising

Every two weeks

Florist's tip

Does not tolerate cold, in winter move it indoors

Did you know?

Mixing different varieties for colours and shades creates chromatic effects envied by many other plants



PLANT OF THE YEAR
2026



SUPERTUNIA VISTA® BUBBLEGUM®

Perennial plant used as annual

Petunia with very vigorous growth, in open ground it can cover even the surface of one square metre

Where to use

Gardens, balcony boxes

COLOURS:



Flowering

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER



Exposure

Sun, partial sun



Water

Undemanding,
about once a week



Care

Soil

Universal

Fertilising

Every two weeks
with specific fertiliser
from Aflovit
associated
floricultures

Florist's tip

If during summer it is
sparse, prune the plant
vigorously, even by
a third of its volume,
and fertilise. It will
quickly form a full little
bush again

PHOTO SUPERTUNIA
VISTA® BUBBLEGUM®
PSENNER

Did you know?

It is known for its hardiness and resistance to diseases and pests. It is also resistant to climate change: it tolerates well both heat and cold



THE CHARM AND USEFULNESS OF ROSES IN ROTIANA KÖNIGSBERG

Why is the rose important?

It is never just an aesthetic choice. Including roses in our "Wine Garden" brings precious benefits. This is because roses are:

Sentinels of nature Roses are "spy plants" that signal in advance the presence of any diseases, allowing timely intervention to protect nearby plants.

Biodiversity and Refuge Just like nectar-bearing flowers, roses create a welcoming environment for pollinators and beneficial insects, Countering habitat impoverishment.

Visual harmony The colours of roses contribute to the psychophysical well-being of those who live in and visit the territory.

Exposure

The rose prefers very sunny positions, but also tolerates partial shade as long as it is bright

Water

Wait for the soil to dry out before watering

Care

Prefers well-drained soil, rich in organic matter, with neutral or slightly acidic pH

Did you know?

It multiplies easily by cutting a small branch and placing it in water



80-100 cm
60-80 cm

ROSA NOSTALGIE®

Rosa Nostalgie, with its bicolor flowers and refined fragrance, combines elegance and character

Flowering

Blooms continuously from late spring to late autumn

Colours



80-100 cm
100-120 cm

ROSA LAVENDER DREAM

Enchants with its clustered flowers and the soft, slightly arched habit

Flowering

Blooms abundantly from May to October

Colours



6-8 m
6-8 m

ROSA BANKSIAE "LUTEA"

Charms with its small roses, fragrant and thornless, that elegantly cover pergolas and walls

Flowering

Blooms only once a year, in spring, but with an extraordinarily exuberant and persistent flowering

Colours



80-100 cm

ROSA SEVILLANA

It stands out for its large, double, vibrant flowers, with a sweet and intense fragrance

Flowering

Blooms abundantly from late spring until autumn

Colours



80-100 cm

ROSA KNOCK OUT RED

Wins you over with its lively flowers, simple and bright. Hardy and practically immune to diseases, it requires very little maintenance

Flowering

Produces flowers from early spring until late autumn

Colours





TRAILING BEGONIA

Perennial plant used as annual

There are 900 species; the trailing variety grows upright and then, with the weight of the branches, becomes pendulous

Where to use

Balcony boxes

COLOURS:



Flowering

JANUARY
FEBRUARY
MARCH
APRIL
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER



Exposure

Full sun



Water

The soil must always be slightly moist



Care

Soil

Better to use light soils

Fertilising

From May to September, once a week

Florist's tip

Pinch back the apical branches to encourage flower production

PHOTO TRAILING BEGONIA
SUMMERWINGS

Did you know?

Some varieties have edible flowers



MANDEVILLA

Perennial plant used as annual

Native to South America, it is characterised by large trumpet-shaped flowers

Where to use

Balcony boxes or as a climber

COLOURS:



Flowering

JANUARY
FEBRUARY
MARCH
APRIL
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER



Exposure

Sun, at least 6 hours a day. Tolerates heat



Water

In spring and summer, abundant and frequent watering



Care

Soil

Prefers light soils

Fertilising

Granular fertiliser when just planted and in mid-summer, or liquid fertiliser every two weeks

Florist's tip

Excess water is signalled by the rapid yellowing of the leaves

PHOTO BOMBSHELL®
RED PROVEN WINNER
USA

Did you know?

When used as a climber, it has very fast growth and can reach up to 3 metres in height



PORTULACA

There are both annual and perennial varieties that form small creeping or trailing little bushes. Very easy to grow

Where to use

Rock gardens, balcony boxes

COLOURS:



Flowering

JANUARY
FEBRUARY
MARCH
APRIL
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER



Exposure

Full sun, tolerates drought



Water

Undemanding, water only when the soil is completely dry



Care

Soil

Universal

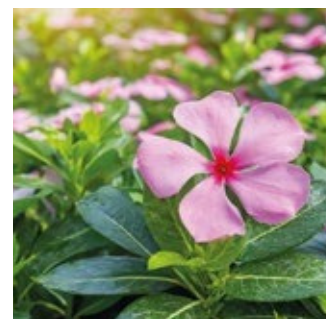
Fertilising

Once a month

PHOTO MOJAVE
FUCHSIA PROVEN
WINNERS USA

Did you know?

The flowers open in the morning and close in the evening. Some varieties have edible flowers



VINCA CATHARANTHUS

Annual plant

Native to Madagascar, in nature it forms perennial shrubs

Where to use

Gardens, balcony boxes, pots

COLOURS:



Flowering

JANUARY
FEBRUARY
MARCH
APRIL
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER



Exposure

Full sun



Water

Wait for the soil to dry out before watering



Care

Soil

Very draining

Fertilising

Every two weeks

Florist's tip

If it wilts due to heat, give it a little water and in a couple of hours it returns perfect

Did you know?

It is used in the pharmaceutical industry to fight several diseases, but if ingested as it is, it is poisonous to both people and animals



MICHAELMAS DAISY

Perennial plant

Also called Aster, it is a bush that can exceed one metre in height.

Where to use

Just bought, in pots and balcony boxes, then planted in open ground

COLOURS:



Flowering

JANUARY
FEBRUARY
MARCH
APRIL
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER



Exposure

Partial shade



Water

Regular, undemanding



Care

Soil

Universal

Fertilising

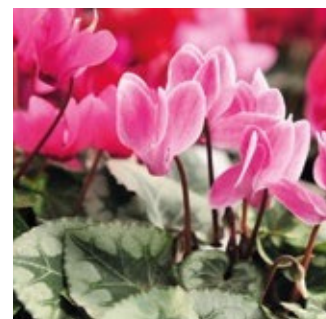
Granular, twice a year

Florist's tip

A pinch in early June contains the growth and the flowering will be more compact

Did you know?

In some areas, Michaelmas daisy are also called Saint Michael's daisies, as they bloom during the period when the Saint is celebrated



CYCLAMEN

Perennial plant

Easy-to-grow bulbous plant.

It has heart-shaped leaves and bell-shaped flowers

Where to use

Gardens and balcony boxes

COLOURS:



Flowering

JANUARY
FEBRUARY
MARCH
APRIL
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER



Exposure

Sun in winter, partial shade in other seasons



Water

The soil must always be slightly moist



Care

Soil

Well-draining

Fertilising

In winter, every two weeks

Florist's tip

It is good practice to remove wilted flowers to encourage the production of new ones. If the night is too cold, move indoors until morning

Did you know?

All species of cyclamen found in nature (in the woods of the Alps and Apennines) are protected and must absolutely not be picked!



CALLUNA

Perennial plant used as annual

Part of the heather family, with many varieties featuring upright, creeping and trailing forms.

Where to use

Gardens, balcony boxes, pots

COLOURS:



Flowering

JANUARY
FEBRUARY
MARCH
APRIL
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER



Exposure

Sun, partial shade



Water

The soil must always be slightly moist



Care Soil

Light; if you plan to keep it for several years, use soil for acidophilic plants

Fertilising

In autumn, every two weeks

Florist's tip

It suffers from intense heat; buying it in August may cause it to struggle

Did you know?

The name Calluna comes from the Greek word Kalluno, meaning 'to sweep', because it was once used to make brooms



HELLEBORUS

Perennial plant

It also grows wild in our woodlands.

Where to use

Just bought, in balcony boxes and pots; in spring, plant it in open ground

COLOURS:



Flowering

JANUARY
FEBRUARY
MARCH
APRIL
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER



Exposure

Sun in winter, partial shade or shade in other seasons



Water

In winter only when the soil is dry to the touch; in spring and summer more frequent



Care

Soil

Very light, to avoid any risk of stagnation

Fertilising

In open ground and pots, twice a year with granular fertiliser

Did you know?

Used by witches in the Middle Ages, it was considered an elixir for eternal youth

MAIN PLANT DISEASES



APHIDS

Also called plant lice, these insects, which can be yellow, green, brown or black, colonise shoots and buds, sucking their sap



SCALE INSECTS

They are characterised by a protective "shield", which can be whitish, black or shaped like a tuft of cotton. They too feed on the sap of our plants



RED SPIDER MITES

These mites, barely visible, feed on the cytoplasm from the underside of the leaves, causing depigmentation



FUNGAL DISEASES

They are caused by pathogenic fungi that attack our plants when the environment is too humid. They cause curling and early loss of leaves

NATURAL DEFENCE BOOSTERS

Remember...

prevention is always better than cure!

GENERAL

Linseed oil

It nourishes and strengthens plant tissues, making them more resistant to fungal attacks. It also protects from temperature changes and extreme weather conditions, such as strong wind or intense heat.

PROPOLIS

Dilute in water and spray on both sides of the leaves every 15 days throughout the growing cycle. It has a strengthening and stimulating action, helps against aphids, bacteria and fungi, and attracts pollinating insects.

SOFT SOAP

Spray generously on leaves and stem. On its own it is effective against fungi, but together with linseed oil and neem oil it nourishes and strengthens plants, making them less vulnerable to all adversities.

TANNIN

Extracted from certain trees, it is useful in conditions of high humidity: it helps the plant defend itself against fungi, bacteria and parasites. It can be spread on the soil or diluted in water and sprayed on the leaves.

SPECIFIC AGAINST FUNGI

Horsetail extract
Dilute in water and spray both the upper and lower side of the leaves. Repeat the treatment every 7-10 days.

POWDERED ZEOLITE

Spread the powder evenly on leaves and stem. Repeat every 7-10 days.

KAOLIN

Dissolve in water and spray on the leaves. After application, the leaves will take on a milky white colour: when this colour fades, it is time to repeat the treatment.

SPECIFIC AGAINST INSECTS

Neem oil

Dilute in water and spray on leaves, branches and stem.

It is also available in spray version ready to use.

Nettle extract

Dilute in water and spray on the entire aerial part of the plant.

There are also products already diluted and ready to use.

Linseed oil

Spray on both the upper and lower side of the leaves.

It is sold either pure (to be diluted) or ready to use.

Used together with neem oil, it boosts the effect.

Diatomaceous earth

Apply the powder directly on leaves and soil. Sprinkle it also around the pots or at the base of the plants to keep insects away.

PLEASE NOTE:

Treatments should always be carried out during the cooler hours of the day. For doses and further suggestions, ask your trusted florist: they will give you the right advice for every plant!



Info point

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Discover the associated flower growers

In collaboration with



With the support of



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COMMUNITY



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MEZZOCORONA



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