

Geranium

Soil & Climate

Soil

Geranium thrives well in calcium rich porous light soil with pH of 5.5 to 8.0 that does not retain moisture during winter or rainy season. It is successfully cultivated on the hill slopes of Nilgiris along contours and on hill terrace. It grows equally well in the well-drained red sandy loam soils in the plains of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

Climate

Geranium can grow in temperate, sub-tropical and tropical climates. Temperature range of 5-23°C and rainfall ranging from 750mm of the plains up to 2750 mm of Naduvattam in Nilgiris is ideal for its cultivation. It has been successfully cultivated at altitudes from 530 m to 2400 m. At altitudes of 2400m and beyond the crop suffers adversely from frost damage. The crop is quite drought resistant but a long spell of dry weather is known to greatly diminish the oil yield.