



Calla Lily Bulbs

Tuber treatments to enhance flowering

GA treatments all increase the number of flowers and reduce the time between first and second flowers. Effect is greatest on pinks, but GA is effective on yellows and whites to a lesser extent. A slight increase (5-10%) in flower deformation may occur on yellows and whites, but net gain in performance justifies its use.

GA will increase plant height, slightly reduce leaf width, and soften stems, especially in low light and shorter days. Tubers should be dipped for one to five minutes in a 100 ppm GA solution and allowed to air dry prior to planting. Addition of a fixed copper such as Champ II at 1 oz. per gallon to the solution can help reduce pathogen spread. Take care not to damage the sprout when dipping.

GA may also be applied with a backpack sprayer. Many growers prefer this method, as it reduces pathogen spread. Just lay the callas out and spray to drip. Try to get maximum coverage on all tubers. Allow tubers to dry slowly, with fans, for 4-8 hours for maximum GA absorption.

Recommendation:

- 100 ppm mixture

GA on Permanent Plantings:

GA can be applied to established planting, without soil disturbance, after sprout emergence and when leaves are unfurling or expanded. A GA backpack spray can be applied at the 150 ppm rate. The additional flowering effect will take 75-85 days. This is an economical method that will increase flower yields and extend flower production, but conversely decrease uniformity at harvest date as compared to the dipped, fresh planted bulbs.