

Florida Council

Pre Show Schedule 2014

Week	Date	Instructions
12 Weeks	August 1 st	Remove leaves from your African violet . Re-pot; pot down if there are necks or pot up to next size if needed. Lights should be on twelve hours a day.
11 Weeks	August 8 th	Keep plants disbudded. Exceptions are trailers and some miniatures. Don't let mini over bloom this early. If they are showing a lot of bud, partially disbud or you may lose the center.
10 Weeks	August 15 th	Disbud plants. Start bloom-booster. A bloom-booster is any fertilizer with a high center number like a (5-57-17, or 3-12-6) fertilizer formula
9 Weeks	August 22 nd	Increase light time by one hour to thirteen hours. Disbud heavily variegated varieties and double variegated varieties for the last time. Continue to disbud all other varieties. Continue bloom-booster fertilizer.
8 Weeks	August 29 th	Increase light time by one hour. Disbud all doubles and lightly variegated varieties for the last time. Continue to disbud semidoubles and singles. Check for suckers. Continue bloom-booster fertilizer.
7 Weeks	September 5 th	Increase light time by one hour (to fifteen hours). Disbud semidoubles for the last time. Discontinue bloom boost fertilizer, changing to African violet fertilizer like a (12-36-14 or 7-9-5) fertilizer formula.
6 Weeks	September 12 th	Disbud singles for the last time. Check for suckers. Wash foliage. I have a video about washing foliage. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OCnS_k79kSM
5 Weeks	September 19 th	Check plants for buds. Buds can be gently manipulated towards center of the plant. Check for suckers and keep debris off foliage with soft brush.
4 Weeks	September 26 th	Check plants for buds. Buds can be gently manipulated towards center of the plant. Check for suckers and keep debris off foliage with soft brush.
3 Weeks	October 3 rd	Check plants for buds. Buds can be gently manipulated towards center of the plant. Check for suckers and keep debris off foliage with soft brush.
2 Weeks	October 10 th	Remove spent blossoms, peduncles (stem emanating from an axil and supporting the entire flower cluster), and pedicel stubs (stem emanating from the peduncle and supporting the individual blossom).
1 Week	October 17 th	Remove spent blossoms, peduncles, and pedicel stubs. Check for suckers. Brush away soil particles, etc. Pot down necks or pot up only if necessary.
Day before	October 23 rd	Again, remove spent blossoms, etc. Remove training devices, such as picks or pins. Training rings can be left on for transporting to show. Place plants in transporting boxes so that the foliage is supported.

Schedule is from Growing to Show - "How to Grow Prize-Winning African Violets" by Pauline Bartholomew and The African Violet Society of America, Inc.