



# October

"In every walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks." - John Muir

## Learning About Chrysanthemum Growth! For a chrysanthemum plant to thrive, it needs:

**Light:** Chrysanthemums require at least 6 hours of direct sunlight daily, which is easily available on sunny days in Cyprus.

**Soil:** They prefer well-drained, organic-rich soil with a pH close to 6.0-7.0. Cyprus soils can be enriched with compost for better growth.

**Water:** Chrysanthemums need regular watering to keep the soil moist but not overly wet. In Cyprus, it's best to water them early in the morning or late in the afternoon to minimize evaporation.

**Fertilization:** Chrysanthemums thrive in nutrient-rich soil to develop their blooms. Natural fertilizers can be used to enrich the soil.

**Temperature:** Chrysanthemums grow best in temperatures between 15°C and 25°C. The climate in Cyprus is ideal for growing chrysanthemums during spring and autumn.



# QUIZ!

### Chrysanthemum The secrets of chrysanthemums and the environment

1. Which of the following is a characteristic of chrysanthemum flowers?
  - A) They are only white.
  - B) They can have various colors, such as yellow, orange, red, and purple.
  - C) They are only blue.
2. How does the chrysanthemum help in gardening?
  - A) It attracts more pests.
  - B) It repels harmful insects and improves soil quality.
  - C) It provides shade for other plants.
3. Which part of the chrysanthemum can you use to grow a new plant?
  - A) The fruit.
  - B) The seed or a cutting.
  - C) The leaf.
4. In which season does the chrysanthemum bloom in Cyprus?
  - A) Winter.
  - B) Spring.
  - C) Autumn.

#### Endemic Plant of Cyprus

##### Mastic Tree (*Pistacia lentiscus*)

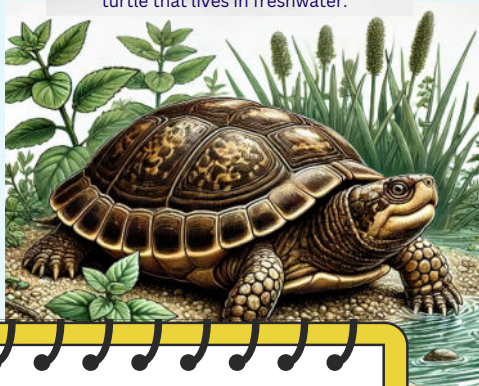
**Information:** The mastic tree is a shrub with red berries and aromatic resin.



#### Endemic Plant of Cyprus

##### Cypriot Terrapin (*Mauremys rivulata*)

**Information:** The terrapin is a type of turtle that lives in freshwater.



#### Sowing in Cyprus in Past Times

In October, farmers in Cyprus began sowing, using traditional methods passed down through generations. These methods are important because they show how people lived and worked before the arrival of modern technology.

#### Sowing Tools and Techniques

For sowing, they used tools like the plow, which was often made of wood with iron tips. The plow was pulled by oxen or donkeys and created furrows in the soil for sowing seeds. Another essential tool was the hoe, used to prepare the soil and remove weeds.

Farmers also used seeds from previous years, saved from the harvest. These seeds were planted by hand in rows, following the furrows created by the plow.

#### Important Crops

One of the most important crops was barley, used for making bread and other staple foods. They also grew fruits like figs and grapes, as well as vegetables such as tomatoes and cucumbers.

#### Cultural Significance

Sowing was not only an agricultural activity but also a social event that brought the community together. Farmers often helped each other, and this cooperation was essential for successful sowing and harvesting.

