

Trachelium caeruleum

Passion



An attractive eye-catcher for late Spring and early Autumn sales, a great centre-piece for large mixed containers or can be grown in the garden for use as a home-garden cut flower.



- Compact plant with outstanding branching
- Heat tolerant
- Large, very decorative umbels
- Attractive product in pack or large container
- Not for professional cut flower use

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|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Annual | Pot Plant |
| Bedding + mixed combo | Half shade + full sun |
| Upright | - |
| 30 cm | Pellet |
| 20 cm | 10-12 cm |

Culture Guide

Plug Culture

- Stage 1** (days 1-10) Single sow seed into a 200 plug tray using a slightly fertilized peat with 20% perlite and a pH between 5.5-6.0. Optimum EC <0.6 mmhos (1:2 slurry). Maintain a temperature of 21°C. Trachelium requires light to germinate so apply a light cover of vermiculite.
- Stage 2** (days 11-21) Reduce night temperature to 18°C and maintain the day temperature between 21-22°C. Trachelium Passion requires long days after transplanting to initiate flowering. Providing long days in the plug stage will not reduce the total crop time, but will enhance overall vegetative growth. Apply a light fertilizer at 50 ppm N using a well balanced calcium nitrate based formulation.
- Stage 3** (days 22-42) Maintain optimum temperatures. Increase fertilizer to 100 ppm N alternating between 14-0-14 and 20-10-20. Target EC is 1.0 mmhos (1:2 slurry).
- Stage 4** (days 43- 49) In preparation for transplant, reduce the night temperature to 13-16°C and the day temperature to 18°C. Cooler temperatures during stage 4 will tone the plants and prepare them for transplanting. Do not delay transplanting.

Pack & Pot Culture

- In general** Plant one plug per 10 cm pot and 3 plugs per 15 cm pots, depending on the finished product, using a slightly fertilizer peat. Optimum pH is 5.5-6.0 with an EC of 1.5-1.8 mmhos (1:2 slurry). Umbels should be removed as soon as they have finished flowering.
- Media** Use a slightly fertilized peat. Optimum pH is 5.5-6.0 with an EC of 1.5-1.8 mmhos (1:2 slurry).
- Temperature** Grow at 18-24°C. To limit stretching, use a negative DIF.
- Fertilizer** Trachelium needs a high fertilizer level. Begin fertilization as soon as the plants are established in pots to avoid light green foliage and chlorosis. Optimum EC level is 2.5-3.5 mmhos (1:2 slurry). Applying 200-250 ppm N alternating between 14-0-14 and 20-10-20 works well.
- Lighting** Trachelium is an obligate long day plant and require long days to initiate flowering. Therefore, apply 40-50 watts per square meter for 14 hours from sowing until visible bud. After flower initiation, the plants will flower regardless of day length.
- Growth regulators** Alar at 2,500-5,000 ppm is effective at reducing plant height. 1-3 applications will be necessary depending on the size of the finished plant.
- Crop schedule** Trachelium Passion requires 20 weeks when sown in mid-December for sales in early May. 16-18 weeks when sown in mid-March for sales in July-August.

All information given is intended for general guidance only and is believed to be accurate. Cultural details are based on Northern Hemisphere conditions and Sakata cannot be held responsible for any crop damage related to the information given herein. Application of recommended growth regulators and chemicals are subject to local legislations and manufacturer's label instructions.