

Delphinium elatum F1 Candle



SAKATA®

Today's standard Delphinium varieties are long day varieties, but Candle is ideally suited for Winter production and will flower with a minimum day-length of 10 hours.

- ✿ Extremely stable and especially bred for short-day production schedules
- ✿ Very early and uniform blooming
- ✿ Suitable for tunnel, greenhouse and open field production
- ✿ F1 hybrid vigour guarantees good results from subsequent flushes following first harvest



Indoor/outdoor



Cut Flower



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350-400/gram; normal



100-180 cm



Cool, dry, airtight 8-10°C



Culture Guide

Plug Culture

Stage 1

(days 1-14) Direct sow seed into plug trays filled with a well-drained sterile media and a pH between 5.5-6.3. Cover the seed lightly with medium vermiculite and water thoroughly with added fungicide to prevent disease problems from damping off. Place the trays in a dark cool cell maintaining a media temperature of 10°C for 15-20 days. It is important to maintain sufficient media moisture. One option is to wrap the trays or trolley with plastic. Maintain media at 20°C for 12 hours in the day, and 15°C for 12 hours at night. To maximize germination, keep days below 25°C and nights below 20°C. Maintain sufficient humidity, but do not over-saturate.

Stage 2

(days 15-21) When seedlings begin to emerge, apply a light feed of 75-100 ppm Nitrogen from a well-balanced calcium nitrate based fertilizer. High temperatures (excess of 25°C) at the plug stage will result in poor quality cut flowers on immature plants. Low temperatures (below 10°C) cause plants to rosette which is broken by increasing day length conditions from Winter into Spring.

Stage 3

(days 22-35) The true leaves are beginning to form. Place in a cool greenhouse with high light and good air movement and a temperature of 15-18°C. Maintain media EC between 0.8 and 1.0 mmhos (1:2 slurry) and a media pH of 5.5-6.3.

Stage 4

(days 36-42) The plugs are now reaching transplant size and have 3 true leaves. Delphinium has a tap root system and delaying transplanting will reduce plant and flower quality.

Plant Culture

Transplanting

Select a well-drained bed in full sun with good drainage and a pH of 6.0 to 6.5. Incorporating organic matter into the bed will improve the soil structure and enhance fertility. Space plants 20 x 20 cm apart. Plant support is needed to keep the plants from falling over.

Temperature

For earliest flowering in greenhouse, (November-January), optimum forcing temperature is 15-24°C. For later flowering in greenhouse, (March-June), maintain the temperature between 5-24°C.

Fertilizer

Optimum media EC level is 1.0 to 1.4 mmhos (1:2 slurry). The use of a well-balanced calcium nitrate based fertilizer will promote strong and healthy plants.

Lighting

Long day length will decrease time to flower and will promote shorter plant height.

Pests & diseases

Pythium, Rhizoctonia and Phytophthora.

Crop schedule

Type	Sow		Plant
First Harvest *			
Forcing	Mid-August	Late Sept.	End of Nov.
Semi-Forcing	Mid Oct.	End of Nov.	End of March

Natural Season			
Mild Climate	Mid-Sept.	End of Oct.	May to June
Natural Season			
Cold Climate	Feb. to March	April to May	July to August

*Delphinium Candle will flush every 10-12 weeks if optimum temperature (15-25°C) is maintained and the plants receive a minimum of 10 hours of daylight. Higher light levels, longer photoperiod and higher temperature will accelerate flowering time, but also decrease plant height.

Post harvest handling Use of flower food is highly recommended.

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.