

# Helianthus annuus F1

## Sunbright



Sunbright was bred for early flowering under short day conditions and low temperatures. Therefore, they excel in cool seasons and are very useable when the days are shorter and temperatures are lower. All of Sakata's sunflowers are of uniflora type and pollen free.



- \* F1 hybrid quality
- \* Pollenless, uniflora type
- \* Bred for large flower production under low nitrogen, low light level and low temperature conditions
- \* Faster flowering under short days
- \* Suitable for both indoor and outdoor production systems
- \* Uniform and vigorous under low temperature and short days
- \* Holds up extremely well in long distance shipping
- \* Less susceptible to Botrytis at harvesting stage

	Indoor/outdoor		Cut Flower
	-		20/gram; normal
	80-160 cm		Cool, dry, airtight 8-10°C

## Culture Guide

### Outdoor Culture

<b>Stage 1</b>	Sunflowers perform best planted in relatively poor soil. Soil that is too rich will cause the plants to grow too tall. Sow seeds directly into beds and lightly cover with soil. In clay soil distance between the rows is 32,5 cm, in the row 14 cm between the seeds. In sandy soil distance between the rows is 25 cm and in the row distance is 12 cm between the seeds. Spacing: Broader spacing gives a larger flower size. Dense growing will help to reduce the amount of side branching. Water the seed beds thoroughly. Covering with acrylic gives a more uniform germination and is especially recommended for the early sowings. Seeds germinate in about 10 days
<b>Stage 2</b>	Remove acrylic when seedlings reach a height of approx. 10 cm. Apply a light feed of 50-75 ppm N from a well balanced calcium nitrate based fertilizer for strength.
<b>Temperature</b>	Ensure that there is no chance of frost, which can damage or kill the plants.
<b>Fertilizer</b>	Sunflowers require little or no fertilizer to produce flower stems of high quality. Ideal EC level is 0.7 mmhos (1:2 slurry). Also, water the plants only moderately to avoid overgrowth and soft plants. Take extra care not to overfeed plants. Note: Excessive application of Nitrogen fertilizer may result in overgrowth of plants, especially when grown as a Summer crop.
<b>Lighting</b>	Sunflowers require high light levels and grow best when grown and planted in full sun. The length is related to day length and temperature. During short days, plants will flower more quickly with smaller discs on shorter stems. Under long day conditions, plants will flower later with larger discs on taller stems.
<b>Growing</b>	Cut stems when the flowers are 1/4 open with the petals perpendicular to the centre disc. To ensure the longest vase life, cut the stems at the proper stage. Late harvesting will result in reduced vase life.
<b>Pests &amp; diseases</b>	Aphids, Downy Mildew, Powdery Mildew, Sclerotinia.
<b>Growing</b>	Cut stems when the flowers are 1/4 open with the petals perpendicular to the centre disc. To ensure the longest vase life, cut the stems at the proper stage. Late harvesting will result in reduced vase life.
<b>Crop schedule</b>	Flowering time will be about 70-80 days in the Summer and 50-60 days in the Winter.

**Post harvest  
handling**

Stems that are cut at a young stage and placed in fresh water have the best vase life. Flowers often survive 10-14 days; especially if the stems are re-cut and the water is changed regularly. Place flowers in a cool room and out of direct sunlight.

## Indoor Culture

<b>Stage 1</b>	Sunflowers perform best planted in relatively poor soil. Soil that is too rich will cause the plants to grow too tall. Sow seeds directly into beds and lightly cover with soil. . In clay soil distance between the rows is 32,5 cm, in the row 14 cm between the seeds. In sandy soil distance between the rows is 25 cm and in the row distance is 12 cm between the seeds Water the seed beds slightly and maintain 24°C air temperature, with a minimum soil temperature of 10°C. Seeds germinate in about 10 days. 7 to 10 days after seedlings emerge, thin out leaving only the strongest and most sturdy seedlings. Spacing: Broader spacing gives a larger flower size. Dense growing will help to reduce the amount of side branching.
<b>Stage 2</b>	After germination, reduce temperature to 20-21°C and ensure good ventilation to reduce disease pressure.
<b>Stage 3</b>	Apply a light feed of 50-75 ppm N from a well balanced calcium nitrate based fertilizer to strengthen the seedlings.
<b>Fertilizer</b>	Sunflowers require little or no fertilizer to produce flower stems of high quality. Ideal EC level is 0.7 mmhos (1:2 slurry). Also, water the plants only moderately to avoid overgrowth and soft plants. Exercise extra care not to overfeed plants. Note: Excessive application of Nitrogen fertilizer may result in overgrowth of plants, especially when grown as a Summer crop.
<b>Lighting</b>	Sunflowers require high light levels and grow best when grown and planted in full sun. The length is related to day length and temperature. During short days, plants will flower more quickly with smaller discs on shorter stems. Under long day conditions, plants will flower later with larger discs on taller stems.
<b>Pests &amp; diseases</b>	Aphids, Downy Mildew, Powdery Mildew and Sclerotinia.
<b>Crop schedule</b>	Flowering time will be about 70-80 days in the Summer and 60-70 days in the Winter. Cut stems when the flowers are 1/4 open with the petals perpendicular to the centre disc. To ensure the longest vase life, cut the stems at the proper stage. Late harvesting will result in reduced vase life.
<b>Post harvest handling</b>	Stems that are cut at a young stage and placed in fresh water have the best vase life. Flowers often survive 10-14 days; especially if the stems are re-cut and the water is changed regularly. Place flowers in a cool room and out of direct sunlight.

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*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.*