

LOBELIA LOBELIX BLUE

This new series bred by Birgit Hofmann of Kientzler has been created for improved summer performance. The varieties have a mounding habit and flower early to semi early. Great branching and performance in growth makes this series a good choice for growers and consumers.

PROPAGATION

Temperature: The use of warm temperature propagation can rapidly encourage rooting of Lobelia. Recommended environment includes use of 68 degree F. night temperature. Misting in propagation should be used for the first 7 - 9 days to mitigate excessive wilting. Propagation environments set up with high indirect lighting will help to warm day temperature and encourage rapid rooting.

Fertilize: Starter fertilization can begin at 75 to 100 PPM and increase to 150 - 200 PPM at root formation.

After root: After root initiation, stretch in propagation can be mitigated by pinching terminal growth , move rooted cuttings to High light, lower temperature and lower humidity environment as soon as leaves can resist wilting .

More information: Should Interveinal chlorosis be present, review pH and hold pH to 5.8 to 6.2, avoid rising pH by use of acid fertilization. In addition review irrigation practices and allow drying to occur in between irrigations. Scheduling for rooting should be 4 weeks.

FINISHING

Environment: Environment is critical to good Lobelia growth after transplant. At transplant, transition the rooted cuttings into Higher light (5 - 6000 foot candle) environment with cool night temperature at 58- 60 degrees, lower temperature and higher light compared to the propagation environment. Begin increased fertilization to 200 PPM.

After rooting: After rooting into final container, reduce irrigations and begin to dry slightly between irrigations. Temperature can again be lowered to 55 degree nights and high of 70 degree day. Product can be moved to brighter light with 8000 ft candle as a target. For 6 inch pots and larger, schedule a second pinch and encourage low branching to occur by low pinching. (Higher pinching encourages lower vegetative leaf count prior to reproductive growth.)

More information: If PGRs are still needed to get controlled growth, use of B-9 at 1500 to 2500 PPM can be applied after transplant. Use PGR recommendations as general guidelines.

CLEAN STOCK

CLEAN STOCK: Susceptibility of Lobelia to viruses are well known. Kientzler Lobelia come from Kientzler Innovaplant with commitment to unsurpassed clean record of production reliability.

CROP SCHEDULING

Crop Scheduling: Use the following schedules for finishing Lobelia Pots, 4 to 6 inch containers in Early spring should finish in 7 to 11 weeks, 8 and 10 inch containers 9 to 13 weeks, and Baskets 9 to 13 weeks. Later Spring finish can be reduced by 1 week.

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