

PETUNIA VERANDA DARK HEART

Excellent new additions from David Kerley. Key features are early blooming and compact growth with large numbers of medium size flowers in great colors.

PROPAGATION

Temperature: The use of warm temperature propagation can rapidly encourage rooting of Petunia. 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.

More information: After root initiation, stretch in propagation can be mitigated by the use of B-9 at 2500 PPM, and movement of cuttings to lower temperature and lower humidity environment, and pinching. 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 Petunia growth after transplant. At transplant, transition the rooted cuttings into 5 - 6000 foot candle environment with night temperature at 60 - 62 degrees, slightly lower temperature and higher light compared to the propagation environment. Begin increased fertilization to 250- 300 PPM. 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.

PGR: If PGRs are still needed to get controlled growth, use of B-9 at 1500 to 2500 PPM can be applied after transplant. Also late applications of Bonzi at .25 to 1.0 have been reported to slow vegetative growth and allow flowering to continue. Use PGR recommendations as general guidelines.

Use of extended lights: Veranda Petunias are naturally early to flower, but lighting can be used to assure flowering under short day conditions. Recommendations include daylength extension to 14 to 16 hour days, starting lights at midnight and continuing to sunrise.

CLEAN STOCK

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

CROP SCHEDULING

Crop Scheduling: Use the following schedules for finishing Veranda 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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