

Petunia hybrida Multiflora ***Celebrity Strawberry Ice***

Petunia

Culture guide

Uses:

Landscape/bedding plants, mixed containers, hanging baskets

Exposure:

Sun - Partial shade

Garden height:

12" / 30 cm

Crop time:

11-13 weeks

Sowing method:

1-2 seeds/pills per plug

Germination:

Stage I: 3-5 days at 72-75 °F (22-24 °C); use well drained media with low soluble salt levels and pH 5.5-5.8. Requires light for germination. Before sowing treat the substrate with fungicide. Water adequately after sowing to completely dissolve the pellet. Don't cover seed. Keep soil very wet for optimal germination. Supplemental lighting (100-500 lx) during germination promotes a uniform germination and improves a compact plant habit

Growing On:

5-6 weeks after sowing transplant 1 plant in packs or pots 9-10 cm (3,5-4") or 4 plants in baskets.

Media:

Use a well-drained, growing substrate with 15-30 % clay, 1,5-3 kg/m³ complete balanced fertilizer, 0-3 kg/m³ slow release fertilizer (3-6 months), iron-chelate, micronutrients, pH 5.4-6.0.

Temperature:

Grow at 14-16 °C (57-61 °F). For early selling the plants should be hardened at 10-12 °C (50-54 °F) slowly within 14 days. Temperatures below 10 °C (50 °F) will inhibit the growth and can lead to injuries on a long-term basis. Petunia does not tolerate frost.

Fertilization:

High fertilization levels are required. Fertilize the crop weekly with 150-200 ppm nitrogen, using alternating a potassium balanced fertilizer (N: K₂O-ratio: 1:1,5) and a calcium nitrate fertilizer. Prevent magnesium deficiency by applying magnesium sulphate (0,05 %) 1-2 times and in case of iron deficiency (yellow leaf edges) apply iron-chelate for 1-2 times. Avoid high fertilizer concentrations, it is advisable to fertilize several times weekly with low concentrations. This will promote a constant growth.