

# ***Begonia x benariensis***

## ***BIG Red with Bronze Leaf***

### **Culture guide**

#### **Uses:**

Annual; Pots, baskets, containers and landscape

#### **Exposure:**

Sun - Shade

#### **Garden height:**

31" / 80 cm

#### **Crop time:**

13-14 weeks

#### **Sow time:**

from mid of December onwards

#### **Sowing method:**

1-2 seeds/pellets per plug

#### **Germination:**

Begonias require light to germinate, do not cover seed or pellets. Germination occurs in 5-10 days at 73-80 °F

(23-26 °C), with a relative humidity of 95 % or higher. For pelleted seed, slightly higher temperatures and 100 % relative humidity aid in uniformity of germination. Germination media with a pH of 5.5-6.5 is optimum. Uniformly moist and well-drained soils are important.

#### **Growing On:**

6-7 weeks after sowing transplant 1 plug into 12-13 cm pot (12 cm:

35-40 pots/m<sup>2</sup>, 13 cm: 30-35 pots/m<sup>2</sup>). The plugs should have 2-3 sets of true leaves. High light conditions promote better branching and earlier flowering.

#### **Media:**

Use a well-drained, growing substrate, pH 5.5-6.2.

#### **Temperature:**

Grow at 17-19 °C.

#### **Fertilization:**

Moderate fertilization levels are required. Fertilize at 150 ppm nitrogen weekly, watching excessive salt built-ups.

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