

## ***Celosia cristata*** ***Brainiac Raven Red***

Cockscomb

### ***Culture guide***

**Uses:**

Mass plantings, specimen plant and mixed containers

**Exposure:**

Sun

**Garden height:**

6" / 15 cm

**Crop time:**

10-11 weeks

**Sow time:**

January-June

**Sowing method:**

1 seed per plug

**Germination:**

11-12 days at 73-78 °F (23-25 °C). Light is required for germination. To prevent premature flowering, minimize stress due to high light levels and low moisture and fertilizer levels.

**Growing On:**

Transplant plugs after 4-6 weeks. Grow on at 60-64 °F (16-18 °C).

**Media:**

Use a well-drained, growing substrate with 15-30 % clay, 1-1,5 kg/m<sup>3</sup> complete balanced fertilizer, iron-chelate, micronutrients, pH: 5.5-6.0.

**Temperature:**

Grow at 18-20 °C. At the end of the cultivation time decrease the temperature to 16 °C. Avoid temperatures below 16 °C, because Celosia needs warm temperatures to grow.

**Fertilization:**

Moderate fertilization levels are required. Fertilize the crop weekly with 150-200 ppm nitrogen, using a potassium and phosphate balanced fertilizer (N: K<sub>2</sub>O-Ratio: 1:1,5). Avoid high ammonium and high nitrogen levels. Prevent magnesium deficiency by applying magnesium sulphate (0,05 %) 1-2 times and in case of iron deficiency apply iron-chelate for 1-2 times.