

# Flower Kale (Round Leaf)

## F1 Pigeon Series

## F1 Songbird Series

### *Brassica oleracea*

COLORS AVAILABLE: Pigeon Series: Purple, Red, Victoria (pink), White

**New for '11-'12: Songbird Series: Pink, Red, White**

FLOWER/GARDEN SIZE:

Grown for their colorful rosettes of leaves, looking like a large, exotic flower;

garden height = 8"- 12" / width = 12"-14"

NOVELTY CHARACTERISTIC: Winter beauty, uniqueness in the garden or combination planter

MARKET USE::

Bedding, fall sales, mixed containers, winter sales in areas with temperate winters, popular as garnish/gourmet markets

**CULTURAL RECOMMENDATIONS:**

CONTAINER SIZE:

SOWING: 288 cell tray

FINISH CONTAINER: 4" pots and larger, popular for gallon containers

PLUG STAGE:

GERMINATION Emergence 4-6 days / 65-70°F (lower temp to 60-65°F after emergence) / cover seed

EC (POUR THRU METHOD) Emergence to cotyledon expansion = ~0.75 mS/cm

Cotyledon expansion to true leaf = ~1.0 mS/cm

PLUG FINISH TIME: 4-5 weeks in a 288 tray

FINISHING:

TRANSPLANT: 30-35 days after sowing

DAYS TO FLOWER: 65-75°F days

TEMPERATURE: 65-75°F days / 40-50°F night

EC: (POUR THRU METHOD) 2.0-3.0 mS/cm

pH: 5.7-6.4

COMMON DISEASE/PESTS: Birds can be a problem to young plants grown outside

NOTES:

- Songbird series is more upright than Pigeon series, allowing for better drainage of moisture,

such as after rains, thus reducing disease pressure

- To control early stretch, use a lower starter charge, and lower moisture.
- Flower Kale needs cooler night temperatures and lower fertilizer rates to color properly. If fertilizer rates remain high toward end of crop cycle, proper coloring of foliage will not occur.<sup>1</sup>

PGR TREATMENTS:

1. Cycocel 1500 PPM 1x

2. Bonzi drench 5.0 PPM 1x

Earlier work with Kale has shown B-Nine, Cycocel or a combination spray of the two products to be very effective in controlling plant height. But we have also experienced where the use of B-Nine has actually suppressed color formation under certain conditions, so we no longer recommend the use of B-Nine for Kale crops. Trials with the Bonzi/Paczol (paclobutrazol) drench have resulted in very effective growth control and often enhances color formation. Under cold spring conditions, Bonzi rates of 2-5 PPM will significantly reduce plant stretch. Under warm fall conditions, the rates may need to be increased to 8-10 PPM. PGR's can also help in color response.

Descriptions, illustrations, photos and disease resistance, etc. are based upon the results obtained under favorable conditions and certain races of pathogens/diseases. Identical results are not guaranteed nor implied for all growing conditions. Information is based on average data compiled. Physical characteristics, adaptability and disease tolerance may vary under different conditions. Rev C

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<http://www.takii.com/wp-content/uploads/Flower-Kale-Glamour-Rev-D.pdf>

