

COSMOS bipinnatus

HYB. APOLLO Formula Mix

60-5650

Culture guide

Exposure :

Sun-Partial Shade

Crop Time :

9-11 weeks

Garden height :

18-26" / 55-65 CM

Garden spread:

20-24" / 50-60 CM

Sowing method:

- Media;
 - Use well-drained, disease-free, peat based plug medium with pH 5.8-6.2. EC<0.75mmhos. Cover seed with a thin layer of vermiculite, media should be moist, not saturated.
- Germination stage 1 (3-5 days);
 - Keep media uniformly moist until seedlings are above the covering, media temperature should be 66-70 °F (19-21°C).
- Germination stage 2;
 - Dry down slightly to avoid stretch but avoid wilting, keep media temperature at 66-70°F (19-21°C), germination should be complete in 5-7 days. Fertilization can begin with 50-100ppm N from a well balanced fertilizer.
- Germination stage 3;
 - Allow media to dry further between irrigations to improve rooting and control stretch, but avoid wilting. Media temperature can be dropped to 63-66 °F (17-19 °C), light levels should be <3000 f.c. Fertilize with 100-150ppm N from a well balanced fertilizer, keep media pH at 5.8-6.2 and EC <0.75mmhos.
- Germination stage 4;
 - Practice good wet/dry moisture cycle avoiding wilt, maintain media temperatures at 63-66 °F (17-19 °C), keep light level <3000 f.c. fertilizes stage 3. Apollo is a facultative short day variety. Extending day length to 12-14 hours in the plug stage will help to prevent premature budding.
- Growth regulators;
 - Some growth control can be achieved naturally by good moisture management as long as the plants don't wilt. If needed, a spray of Bonzi (10-15ppm) will help to control early stretch. It is best to run your own trials to avoid overdosing, as weather and cultural regimes can affect the requirements.



NORSECO

Growing on to finish: 4” (10.5cm) up to 8” (20cm) pots

- Media;
 - Use a well-drained, disease free, peat-based growing mix with pH 5.8-6.2, EC 1.0-1.5mmhos.
- Temperatures;
 - Temperatures for growing on should be 65-70°F (18-21 °C). Growing under higher temperatures will reduce crop time. Avoid frost.
- Light;
 - Light levels should be 3000-5000 f.c. as a guide. Apollo is a facultative short day variety. Extending day length to 12-14 hours will help to prevent premature budding.
- Irrigation;
 - Practice a good wet/dry moisture cycle, avoiding wilt.
- Fertilizer;
 - Feed 1-2 times per week with 100-150 ppm N from a well balanced fertilizer, changing to a higher K fertilizer at bud formation. Keep media pH5.8-6.2 and media EC 1.0- 1.5mmhos.
- Growth regulators;
 - Growth can be controlled naturally by good moisture management, avoiding wilt. If needed use sprays of B-Nine (2500 – 5000 ppm) or Bonzi (15- 30 ppm). It is best to run your own trials to avoid overdosing, as weather and cultural regimes can affect the requirements.
- Pests;
 - Aphids, thrips.
- Diseases;
 - Cosmos rarely suffer from disease.

Plug times:

288 plug	4-5 weeks from sowing to transplant
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Transplant to finish:

Container	Plants / Container	Transplant to finish	Total crop time
4” inch (10.5cm):	1 x plug	5-6 weeks	9-11 weeks
6-7” inch (15-18cm):	3 x plug	5-6 weeks	9-11 weeks

*Ref. , 12 July 2016
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