

# ***Eucalyptus gunnii (divaricata)*** **Silverdrop**

Bluegum

## **Culture guide**

### **Uses:**

Pot plants, rare border plant, ornamental leaf production

### **Exposure:**

Sun

### **Garden height:**

20" / 50 cm

### **Crop time:**

16-18 weeks

### **Sow time:**

January-March sowing is possible all-season

### **Sowing method:**

1 seed per plug

### **Germination:**

14-20 days at 72 °F (22 °C), do not cover seeds as light is required to germinate. Keep significantly moist.

### **Growing On:**

Maintain temperature of 61-64 °F (16-18 °C). To ensure continuous growth, do not allow temperature to fall below 54 °F (12 °C). Plants can be over wintered frost free at 38-39 °F (3-4 °C).

### **Media:**

Use a well-drained, growing substrate with 15-30 % clay, 0-15 % perlite, 3 kg/m<sup>3</sup> complete balanced fertilizer, 0-3 kg/m<sup>3</sup> slow release fertilizer (3-9 months), iron-chelate, micronutrients, pH: 5.8-7.0. Field: loamy soils with good drainage. Eucalyptus has low requirements to the soil. Standard fertilization: 100-150 g/m<sup>2</sup> slow release fertilizer.

### **Temperature:**

Grow at 16-18 °C. In growth period not cultivate below 12 °C. Eucalyptus does not tolerate frost.

### **Fertilization:**

High fertilization levels are required. Fertilize the crop weekly with 200-300 ppm nitrogen (at 0 kg/m<sup>3</sup> slow release fertilizer in substrate), using a complete balanced fertilizer. Avoid high ammonium and high nitrogen levels. Just before harvest, use a potassium balanced fertilizer (N: K<sub>2</sub>O-ratio: 1:1,5). In winter fertilize in 4 weeks interval. 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. Eucalyptus does tolerate high salt levels in soils. Avoid salt levels in substrate above 5 g/l. Field: If necessary according to analysis, improve the soil with 150 g/m<sup>2</sup> slow release fertilizer, applied in several portions. Take care of micronutrients levels in soil.