

easy grow guide

geranium quantum

(Pelargonium xhortorum)



Plug Production: 288 plugs or larger

Sowing/Media:	Use a well-drained, disease-free, peat based plug medium with pH 6.0 - 6.2, EC <0.75mmhos. Cover seed with vermiculite
Germination Stage 1 & 2: (7 days)	Keep medium uniformly moist until seedlings are hooking above the covering, media temperature should be 72-75°F (22-24°C) but no higher as thermodormancy may occur, keep light levels <1500 f.c. Light is not essential for germination but can be beneficial.
Germination Stage 3:	Media temperature can be dropped to 65-68°F (18-20°C), light levels should be <3000 f.c. HID lights can promote growth and faster flowering in periods of low light. Fertilize with 100-150ppm N from 15-5-15, 17-5-17 or 13-2-13, keep media pH at 6.0-6.5 no lower and EC <1.5mmhos.
Germination Stage 4:	Media temperatures can be lowered to 62-65°F (16-18°C), light levels should be maintained around 3000 f.c. Dry down between irrigations but avoid wilt. Fertilize with 100-150ppm N from 13-2-13 to tone seedlings. When 3 true leaves are present, you can begin to spray with Cycocel (250-750 ppm) or B-Nine (800-1500) + Cycocel (250-500 ppm) to control growth if required. It is best to run your own trials to avoid overdosing, as weather and cultural regimes can affect the requirements.

Growing On to Finish: Packs, 4" (10cm) pots

Media:	Use a well-drained, disease free, peat-based growing mix with pH 6.0-6.2 (no lower) and EC <1.5mmhos.
Temperatures:	Temperatures for rooting out after transplant should be 65-68°F (18-20°C) Temperatures for growing on can be lowered to 62-65°F (16-18°C)
Light:	Light levels should be 3000-5000 f.c. as a guide. HID lights can be used in low light periods to give more total light and encourage flowering.
Irrigation:	Practice a good wet/dry moisture cycle but avoid wilting. Geraniums do not like to be too wet but can't tolerate wilt either.
Fertilizer:	Feed 1-2 times per week with 150-200 ppm N from 15-5-15, 17-5-17, or 13-2-13, it is best to use calcium based fertilizers, extra iron can be added if needed. Keep media pH 6.0-6.8, and media EC 1.25-1.75 mmhos, any higher can cause root damage.
Growth Regulators:	Quantum is a slower growing, more compact variety than Horizon so less PGR is required. For toning, use sprays of Cycocel (350-1500 ppm) or B-Nine (800-1500) + Cycocel (350-1000 ppm) to control growth. Bonzi sprays (2-5 ppm) can also be used once the foliage covers the media but avoid drenching. It is best to run your own trials to avoid overdosing, as weather and cultural regimes can affect the requirements
Pests:	Aphids, Thrips
Diseases:	Pythium, Botrytis, Alternaria Leafspot, Rust. Necrosis on lower leaves is likely to be caused by media pH <6.0, upper yellow leaves – high media pH >6.8 or low iron.

Plug Times:

288 plug:	4-6 weeks from sowing to transplant
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Transplant to Finish:

Container	Plants per Container	Transplant to Finish	Total Crop Time
Packs:	1 x plug per cell	9-11 weeks	13-15 weeks
4" (10cm):	1 x plug	11-12 weeks	15-16 weeks
6" (15cm):	1 x plug	13-15 weeks	17-19 weeks

Crop times are based on optimum conditions. Alternative environmental conditions and cultural regimes can lengthen the crop times stated above.