

# DIANTHUS chinensis DIANA

## Germination:

Media pH 6.0

temperature 21-24°C (70-75°F)

EC 0.5

Ammonium based fertilizers are not recommended, use calcium based fertilizers instead.

## Stage 1: radicle emergence

Seeds may be covered lightly with vermiculite.

Radicle emergence will take place in 2-4 days.

Keep media moist but do not overwater.

Light is not necessary for germination. Dianthus is very sensitive to high salt levels in stage 1 and 2.

## Stage 2: expanding stem and cotyledons

Keep media moist, lower night temperature to 18°C (65°F).

Under low light conditions supplementary lighting is advised to promote compact strong seedlings.

## Stage 3: development of first true leaves

Keep media moist. Temperature days 18-20°C (65-68°F).

EC 0.5-1

Growth regulators: Cycocel( 1-2 cc/ltr),

Bonzi (0.5 cc/ltr) or A-rest.

Treatments can be applied at the fourth true leaf stage.

## Stage 4: finishing/holding stage

Temperatures can be dropped to 15°C (60°F). Higher temperatures will result in more use of growth regulators to prevent stretching.

## Growing on:

After 5-6 weeks plants can be transplanted, it will take 9-10 weeks to finish in the pack.

Allow an extra 2 weeks for 10 cm (4 in.) pots.

Media: a well-drained, porous media is best to prevent over watering.

pH 6.0-6.5

EC. 1.0-1.75

Moisture: allow media to dry between watering, do not allow plants to wilt severely, this will result in yellow leaves and serious setback in growth.

Light: Increase total light energy to promote early flowering,

daylength extension is not necessary but will promote bud set.

## Pests:

Spidermites, Thrips and whitefly.

## Diseases:

Alternaria leaf spot, Fusarium wilt.

## Growth regulators:

Dianthus interspecific is sensitive to:

- Cycocel, spray up to 5 cc/ltr. Some varieties will show leaf damage at high Cycocel levels. Also a drench of 3cc/ltr. will be effective.

- Bonzi as spray or drench

- Dif

## Scheduling:

12-14 weeks for packs. Pot production, 10 cm (4 in.),

may need an additional 2-3 weeks.

*Sowing Potting Flowering*

wk 2 wk 8 wk 19/20

wk 4 wk 10 wk 21/22

wk 9 wk 14/15 wk 24/26

## Advise:

Ensure best light conditions especially early season and grow dry to restrict and harden growth. Transplant on time.

**Family:** Caryophyllaceae

**Use:** Outdoor containers and pot, suitable for borders and beds.

**Plant type:** Annual

**Height in pot:** 15-20 cm (6-8 in.)

**Garden height:** 20-25 cm (8-10in.)

## Seed count:

1,100-1,250/ gram (30,000-35,000/oz)

Seed count varies by colour and seed lot.

## Seed form:

Raw and pelleted.

70

Hem Genetics cultural information is issued as a guide to growers based on our own trials experience under Northern European conditions.

It is not intended as a blue print for growing. Any chemicals referred to should be used only in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Ref. : 14 May 2013

<http://www.hemzaden.com/hg/downloads/cultural-information/dianthus-fl-diana.pdf>

