

GrowerFacts

French Marigold

(Tagetes patula)

Germination

Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium with a pH of 6.2 to 6.5 and a medium initial nutrient charge (EC) of 0.75 mmhos/cm (1:2 extraction). Cover the seed with coarse vermiculite. Allow 3 to 4 days for germination.

Plug Production

Mmarigold plugs are best produced in 200-cell plug trays.

Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium with a pH of 6.2 to 6.5 and a medium initial nutrient charge (EC) of 0.75 mmhos/cm (1:2 extraction).

Sowing

Cover the seed with coarse vermiculite. Allow 3 to 4 days for germination.

Temperature

Germination: 70 to 72°F (21 to 22°C)

Cotyledon stage: 65 to 72°F (18 to 22°C)

True leaves: 65 to 70°F (18 to 21°C)

Hold plugs: 65 to 68°F (18 to 20°C)

Light

Stage 1: Light is not required for germination

After germination: 1,000 to 2,500 f.c. (10,000 to 25,000 Lux)

Seedling maturity: Up to 3,000 f.c. (30,000 Lux)

Humidity

Maintain 95% relative humidity (RH) until cotyledons emerge.

Soil Moisture

Keep soil moisture high until radicle emergence, then reduce moisture levels after the radicle penetrates the medium. Do not allow seedlings to wilt.

Fertilizer

Stage 2: Apply 50 to 75 ppm N, maintaining an EC of 1.0.

Stage 4: Apply 100 to 150 ppm N, maintaining an EC of 1.0 to 1.5.

Growth Regulators

Not required.

Growing On to Finish

Container Size

Mmarigolds are well-suited to cell-packs and 6-in. (15-cm) pots.

Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium with a pH of 6.2 to 6.5 and a medium initial nutrient charge.

Temperature

Nights: 60 to 62°F (15 to 17°C)

Days: 65 to 68°F (18 to 20°C)

Light

Keep light levels from moderate to high.

Irrigation

Maintain even moisture. Do not allow plants to wilt.

Fertilizer

Feed plants weekly with 150 to 200 ppm N in a complete fertilizer. Maintain the media EC at 1.5 to 2.0 mmhos/cm and pH at 6.2 to 6.8.

Growth Regulators

To tone the plants for best appearance, we recommend applying B-Nine at 2,500 ppm, 1 week after transplant for cell packs or 2 weeks after transplant for 6-in. (15-cm) pots.

Common Problems

Insects: Aphids, mites, whitefly

Diseases: Damping off in the seedling stage

Ref. : 7 May 2013

<http://www.panamseed.com/advancedsearch.aspx?srch>



NORSECO