PETUNIA MILLIFLORA

Picobella™

Minimum Germination Rate: 90%
Seed Product Form: Pelleted, raw

FLOWERING

Time frame when plants are receptive to flower initiation: Days 10 – 12; 3 – 4 leaves.
Flowering Type: Obligate long day and irradiance
Specific Flowering Mechanism: Flowering is affected by daylength, irradiance and temperature. Plants will flower under a day length of 9 hours, 12 mols of light; flower development is enhanced in temperatures of 67°F (19.4°C).

PLUG CULTURE

Germination: Optimum conditions for seedling development that begins the day the crop is sown until cotyledon expansion. Expect radicle emergence in 3 – 5 days.
Cover: Do not cover the seeds.
Media: • pH: 5.8 – 6
• EC: 0.5 – 0.75
Light: Light is necessary for germination. Provide a light source of 10 – 100 foot candles (100 – 1,000 lux) if utilizing a chamber.
Moisture: Saturated (5) for days 1 – 5. On day 6 reduce moisture to wet (4) drying back to a moist (3) within 18 hours.
Humidity: 100% until radicle emergence (approximately day 6), then reduce to 40%.
Dehumidify: Provide horizontal airflow to aid in drying down the media through evapotranspiration, allowing better penetration of oxygen to the roots.
Temperature: 72° – 76°F (22° – 24°C) until radicle emergence. Gradually reduce to 65 - 67°F (18° – 19.5°C) with -2 to -3°F (-1.5 to -2°C) DIF or morning drop as cotyledons expand.
Fertilizers: 14-4-14- or 17-5-17 at 60 – 75 ppm nitrogen to maintain an EC of 0.5 – 0.75; add 8 – 10 ppm phosphorous.
Plug Bulking/Flower Initiation: Optimum conditions during the vegetative period, beginning at cotyledon expansion, needed for the root to reach the edge of the plug cell AND to make the plant receptive to flower initiation.
*To keep plants vegetative, provide less than 9 hours of day length and may benefit from less than 6 mols of light
Media: • pH: 5.8 – 6
• EC: 0.75 – 1.50
Light: Provide 2,000 – 2,500 foot candles (20,000 – 25,000 lux or 6 – 8 mols).
Temperature: 65° – 68°F (18° – 20°C) with a -3 to -5°F (-2 to -3°C) DIF or drop
Moisture: Alternate between saturate (5) and wet (3); dry back must occur within 18 hours
Humidity: 40%
Fertilizers: 14-4-14 or 17-5-17 or 20-10-20 at 100 – 150 ppm nitrogen; 8 – 12 ppm phosphorous.
Growth Regulators: Plant growth regulators are usually not necessary on genetic dwarf Petunias.

GROWING ON

Transplant Ready: 4 – 5 weeks from sow in a '288' tray.
Finish Bulking/Flower Initiation: Optimum conditions during the vegetative period, beginning at transplant, needed for the root to reach the edge of the container AND to make the plant receptive to flower initiation.
Media: • pH: 5.5 – 5.8 Yellow upper leaves may indicate iron deficiencies when pH is > 6.6.
• EC: 1.25 – 1.75
Light: 3,000 – 4,000 foot candles (30,000 – 40,000 lux or 10 – 14 mols) Petunias need long days to flower. To initiate bud under short days, extend day length to 12 hours.
Temperature: 65° – 68°F (18° – 20°C) with a -3 to -5°F (-2 to -3°C) DIF or drop
Moisture: Alternate between saturate (5) and wet (3); dry back must occur within 18 hours.
Fertilizers: 14-4-14 or 17-5-17 or 20-10-20 at 100 – 150 ppm nitrogen; 8 – 12 ppm phosphorous.
Growth Regulators: Plant growth regulators are usually not necessary on genetic dwarf Petunias.
Common Diseases: Botrytis, Rhizoctonia
Common Pests: Thrips

PRODUCT USE

Packs, pots, containers, mass plantings

GARDEN SPECIFICATIONS

Light: Full sun
USDA Hardiness Zone: 8
AHS Heat Zone: 9 – 1
Picobella 8 – 10" (20 – 25 cm) 8 – 10" (20 – 25 cm)

Petunia SCHEDULING in Weeks

Total crop time 8 – 11
'288' plug crop time 4 – 5
Transplant to finish crop time
Packs 4 – 5
4" crop 5 – 6

Note: These suggestions are only guidelines and may have to be altered to meet individual grower's needs. Check all chemical labels to verify registration for use in your region.

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