

# easy grow guide

## phlox popstars

(Phlox drummondii F1)



### Plug Production: 288 plugs

<b>Sowing/Media:</b>	Use a well-drained, disease-free, peat based plug medium with pH 5.8-6.0, EC <0.75mmhos as Phlox drummondii are sensitive to high salts during germination. Cover seed well with vermiculite as they need darkness to germinate.
<b>Germination Stages 1 &amp; 2:</b>	Keep medium uniformly moist, media temperature should be 68-72°F (20-22°C). Maintain good media moisture throughout stage 1 which is 3-5 days. Once seedlings have emerged, media moisture can be reduced slightly but avoid wilting! Light levels can be up to 1000 f.c. and you can begin to fertilize with 50 ppm N from a nitrate based fertilizer.
<b>Germination Stage 3:</b>	Maintain even media moisture drying back slightly between irrigations, but avoid wilting! Temperatures can be reduced to 61-65°F (16-18°C). Light levels can be increased to <3000 f.c. Fertilize as needed with 100-150 ppm N from a nitrate based fertilizer. Keep media pH 5.8-6.0 and EC <0.75mmhos.
<b>Germination Stage 4:</b>	Maintain media moisture, fertilizer rates, pH & EC levels and light levels as per stage 3. Temperatures should be 59-65°F (15-18°C).
<b>Growth Regulators:</b>	Maintaining light levels and temperatures stated above should give good growth control, but do not attempt to control growth through water stress. Sprays of B-Nine (2500 ppm) or A-Rest can also be used to control growth. Weather conditions and cultural practices directly affect how much growth regulator to use, so it is recommended that you run your own trials.

### Growing On to Finish: 4" (10cm) pots, 6" (15cm) pots

<b>Media:</b>	Use a well-drained, disease free, peat-based growing media with a pH 5.5-6.0, EC 1.0-1.5mmhos.
<b>Temperatures:</b>	Keep day temperatures at 59-65°F (15-18°C) but night temperatures can be lowered to 55-59°F (13-15°C).
<b>Light:</b>	Keep light levels up to 5000 f.c.
<b>Irrigation:</b>	Practice a good wet/dry moisture cycle avoiding wilting. Once damaged severely through water stress, P. drummondii will not fully recover.
<b>Fertilizer:</b>	Fertilize every other irrigation with 150-200 ppm N from a nitrate based fertiliser, such as 15-5-15 or 17-5-17. Keep media pH at 5.8-6.2 and EC no higher than 1.5mmhos.
<b>Growth Regulators:</b>	A combination of high light and cool temperatures will give you the best results with Phlox Popstars. Exposing the plants to a negative DIF is a non-chemical method of height control. Further growth control can be achieved with a spray of Bonzi at 15-20 ppm or B-Nine (5000 ppm) 2 weeks after transplant. Further treatments will give greater height control but may delay flowering. It is best to run your own trials to avoid overdosing, as environmental conditions and cultural practices can affect results.
<b>Pests:</b>	Thrips
<b>Diseases:</b>	Powdery Mildew, Rhizoctonia, Pythium

### Plug Times:

<b>288 Plug:</b>	4-5 weeks
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### Transplant to Finish:

Container	Plants/Container	Transplant to Finish	Total Crop Time
<b>4" (10cm):</b>	1 x 288 plug	5-6 weeks	9-11 weeks
<b>6" (15cm):</b>	3 x 288 plugs	5-6 weeks	9-11 weeks

Crop times are based Northern European conditions with no additional light. Alternative environmental conditions and cultural regimes can alter the crop times stated above.