

# ***Helianthus annuus***

## **Pacino® Cola**

Sunflower

### **Culture guide**

**Uses:**

Plants for bedding, attractive pot plants and container plants for patio.

**Exposure:**

Sun

**Garden height:**

14" / 35 cm

**Crop time:**

8-10 weeks

**Sow time:**

March-End July, sowing in intervals

**Sowing method:**

1-2 seeds per plug, can be sown directly into final pot

**Germination:**

5 days at 65-75 °F (18-24 °C). Stage II 70 °F (21 °C). Supplemental lighting during germination and plug production to control seedling stretch is beneficial to overall crop quality. For Stage III & IV reduce temperatures to 62 °F (17 °C), and begin feeding at 100-150 ppm nitrogen.

**Growing On:**

Direct sow seed or transplant at two true leaf stage. Continue feeding at 100 ppm nitrogen weekly. Maintain temperatures above 62 °F (17 °C) for improved branching and overall quality. Fertilize weekly at 200-250 ppm nitrogen. Avoid excessive phosphorus.

**Media:**

Use a well-drained, growing substrate with 15-30 % clay, 1-3 kg/m<sup>3</sup> complete balanced fertilizer, 0-2 kg/m<sup>3</sup> slow release fertilizer (3-6 months), iron-chelate, micronutrients, pH: 5.5-6.2.

**Temperature:**

Grow at 15-18 °C. Cultivate flowering plants not below 12 °C. Helianthus plants do not tolerate frost.

**Fertilization:**

High fertilization levels are required. Fertilize the crop weekly with 200-250 ppm nitrogen, using a potassium balanced fertilizer (N: K<sub>2</sub>O-ratio: 1:1,5). Avoid high ammonium and high nitrogen levels. Prevent magnesium deficiency by applying magnesium sulphate (0,05 %) 1-2 times and in case of iron deficiency apply iron-chelate for 1-2 times.

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