## Gaillardia x grandiflora (aristata) ARIZONA series

Blanket Flower





## Culture guide

Uses: Pots, combination planters and landscape plantings

Exposure: Sun

Garden height: 12" / 30 cm

Crop time: 17-22 weeks

**Sowing time:** Indoor forcing: January February for flowering in pots from May onwards; Outdoor forcing: Mid-April for flowering into field from July onwards

Sowing method: 1-3 seeds per plug

Germination: Stage 1 (10-14 days)

**Growing On:** Transplant plugs after 5-7 weeks. Maintain temperatures of 55-65 °F (13-18 °C). Fertilize at 150-200 ppm nitrate nitrogen.

**Media:** Use a well-drained, growing substrate with 15-30 % clay, 0-15 % parts (e.g., bark, perlite, sand), 1-3 kg/m<sup>3</sup> complete balanced fertilizer, 0-3 kg/m<sup>3</sup> slow-release fertilizer (3-9 months), iron-chelate, micronutrients. **pH**: 5.5-5.8.

**Temperature:** Grow at 12-20 °C or outdoors. In winter indoors frost free at 3-5 °C or outdoors. Outdoor fleece cover needed. For wintering the root development in pots should be very good and the plants should have 16 leaves. In spring the plants start to grow for 7-8 weeks at 18-20 °C during daytime and at 16-18 °C during night. Cold temperatures at 12-15 °C will increase the cultivation time, but the plant shape is more compact.

## Fertilization:

High fertilization levels are required. Fertilize the crop weekly with 130-150 ppm nitrogen (at 3 kg/m<sup>3</sup> slow-release fertilizer in substrate), using a complete balanced fertilizer.

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