

Heliopsis scabra

SUMMER SUN

Oxeye Sunflower, Rough Heliopsis,
Hardy Zinnia

Culture guide

Uses:

Plants for the border, container plants, plants attract bees and butterflies, cut flower production

Exposure:

Sun

Garden height:

47" / 120 cm

Crop time:

16-20 weeks

Sow time:

February-March for flowering in pots from July onwards.

Sowing method:

1-3 seeds per plug, can be sown directly in final pots

Germination:

10-14 days at 68-77 °F (20-25 °C)

Growing On:

Grow on at 60-65 °F (15-18 °C).

Media:

Use a well-drained, growing perennial substrate with 0-15 % clay, 0-15 % organic parts (e.g. bark, wood fibres), 1-2 kg/m³ complete balanced fertilizer, 0-2 kg/m³ slow release fertilizer (3-9 months), iron-chelate, micronutrients, pH: 6.5-7.5. Field: sandy, loamy soils with good drainage and good nutrition levels. Standard fertilization: 40-60 g/m² of a slow release fertilizer.

Temperature:

Grow at 15-18 °C or outdoors. Temperatures below 13 °C over long time can cause yellow leaves. In winter indoors frost free at 3-5 °C or outdoors. Outdoors fleece cover needed. In spring the plants start to grow for 8-10 weeks at 15-18 °C.

Fertilization:

High fertilization levels are required. Fertilize the crop weekly with 200-250 ppm nitrogen (at 3 kg/m³ slow release fertilizer in substrate), using a potassium balanced fertilizer (N: K₂O-ratio: 1:1,5). Avoid high ammonium and high nitrogen levels, because the stems can become soft. Don't fertilize after mid September. In spring fertilize 200-250 ppm nitrogen of a potassium balanced fertilizer. Prevent magnesium deficiency by applying magnesium sulphate (0,05 %) 1-2 times and in case of iron deficiency (above pH 6.0) apply iron-chelate for 1-2 times. Field: If necessary according to analysis, improve the soil

with 80-100 g/m² of a slow release fertilizer, applied in several portions.

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