

Delphinium grandiflorum

Blue Butterfly

Chinese Delphinium, Larkspur

Culture guide

Uses:

Perennial, first year flowering. Bedding and border plants, pot and mixed containers.

Exposure:

Sun - Partial shade

Garden height:

12" / 30 cm

Crop time:

16-20 weeks

Sow time:

December-May

Sowing method:

2-3 seeds per plug

Germination:

14-18 days at 68-72 °F (20-22 °C). Cover seed lightly and maintain constant humidity levels during Stage I.

Growing On:

Transplant plugs 6-8 weeks after sowing into 3.5" (9 cm) to 1 quart (1 liter) containers. For larger containers, use

3 plants per pot. Avoid planting plugs too deep. Provide good ventilation. Begin fertilizing at 200 ppm nitrate nitrogen in a 2-1-2 ratio fertilizer mix. Avoid soluble salt buildups. Finish at temperatures of 45-75 °F (7-24 °C).

Temperatures above 85 °F (29 °C) can cause flower abortion. Temperatures below 55 °F (13 °C) under short days will cause plants to form rosettes and will delay flowering. At lower temperatures, use extended day length or night interruption with incandescent lights to avoid rosette formation.

Media:

Use a well-drained media, pH: 5.8-6.5.

Temperature:

Grow at 13-16 °C or outdoors.

Fertilization:

Moderate fertilization levels are required.

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