

## ***Scabiosa caucasica*** **Fama® Deep Blue**

### **Culture guide**

#### **Uses:**

Cut flower, pots, container and landscape perennial; attracts bees and butterflies

#### **Exposure:**

Sun - Partial shade

#### **Garden height:**

20" / 50 cm

#### **Crop time:**

15-20 weeks

#### **Sowing method:**

1-2 seeds per plug

#### **Germination:**

Stage 1 (10-18 days)

#### **Growing On:**

Transplant plugs after 6-7 weeks. Maintain temperatures

of 60-65 °F (15-18 °C). Lower temperatures cause premature flowering

and poor garden performance. Fertilize at 150-200 ppm nitrogen.

For cut flower production, space Fama at 16 x 20" (40 x 50 cm) between plants.

Cuts can be harvested for 3 consecutive years.

Cut at bud stage or half-open stage.

#### **Media:**

Use a well-drained, growing substrate, 1,5-3 kg/m<sup>3</sup> complete balanced fertilizer, 0-2 kg/m<sup>3</sup> slow release fertilizer (3-9 months), iron-chelate, micronutrients, pH 5.8-6.5. Field: loamy sandy to sandy humus soils with good drainage and good nutrition levels. Standard fertilization: 80-100 g/m<sup>2</sup> of a slow release fertilizer.

#### **Temperature:**

Grow at 12-15 °C or outdoors. Overwinter indoors frost free at 3-5 °C.

#### **Fertilization:**

Moderate fertilization levels are required. Fertilize the crop weekly with 130-150 ppm nitrogen (at 2 kg/m<sup>3</sup> slow release fertilizer in substrate), using a complete balanced fertilizer. Don't fertilize after mid September. In spring fertilize 150-200 ppm nitrogen of

a potassium balanced fertilizer (N: K<sub>2</sub>O-ratio: 1:1,5). 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 1-2 times.