Bellis perennis

# Speedstar® Plus



- Ideal for spring and fall production - perfect partner to Pansies
- Cultivation under cooler temperatures
- Early flowering, short crop time
- Compact plant habit, no PGRs required
- No vernalization required

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| **Crop Time** | Spring: 17 - 20 weeks , Autumn: 10 - 14 weeks |
| **Height** ⌀ | 5 " / 13 cm |
| **Width** ⌀ | 5 " / 13 cm |
| **Exposure** | Sun - Partial shade |
| **Seed Form** | Pelleted Seed |
| **Product Use** | Pots, Mixed Containers, Bedding, Landscape |
| **Family, Origin** | Asteraceae, Europe |
| **Minimum Germ. Rate** | 85 % |

# TECHNICAL GUIDE

Bellis perennis Speedstar® Plus

**Flowering**
**Flowering Type:** Day length neutral plant will flower regardless of day length.

**Flowering Mechanism:** No vernalization required. Irradiance is the primary mechanism that initiates flowering. High light intensity will initiate flowering once plants reach 3-5 true leaves.

**Plug Culture**
**Germination:** Maintain optimal conditions for seedling development, should begin on the day of sowing until root emergence. Expect root emergence in 3-6 days from sowing.

**Cover:** Cover the seeds lightly with vermiculite.

**Sowing method:** 1-2 pellets per plug

**Media:** pH 5.5-6.2, EC <0.7. Bellis are sensitive to high soluble salts in the media.

**Temperature:** Ensure 20-22 °C (68-72 °F) until radicle emergence. Afterwards, keep temperatures of 18-20 °C (64-68 °F) during day and night. When the roots reach the bottom of the cell, the temperature can be lowered to 16-18 °C (60-64 °F).

**Moisture:** Begin with a wet (4) for germination, then reduce to a moist (3) on day 6. As the seedlings become fully developed with expanded cotyledons, the moisture level can be decreased further to a medium (2). Bellis are sensitive to watering stress. Protect the seedlings from direct sunlight.

**Humidity:** 95-100 % until day 6, then reduce to 40-60 %. Provide proper ventilation and horizontal airflow to improve oxygen levels in the media.

**Light:** Light is not required, but can be beneficial if using a germination chamber as it will reduce stretch and improve seedling quality and uniformity. From stage 2, provide light levels of 2,000-2,500 ft. candles (20,000-25,000 lx).

**Fertilizer:** Bellis are sensitive to high salt levels, so ensure to maintain an EC below 0.7. Begin feeding at 50-100 ppm nitrogen once germination is complete. Then the sprays can be increased to 100-175 ppm.

**Plug Bulking and Flower Initiation:** Maintain optimal conditions during the vegetative stage from cotyledon expansion to flower initiation. When the seedlings root to the edge of the plug and reach the 4-6 true leaf stage flower initiation will occur.

**Growth Regulators:** No growth regulators should be necessary in plug stage.

**Fungicides:** Preventative applications are recommended to control soil-borne diseases.

**Growing On**
**Media:** pH 5.5-6.2, EC 1.0-1.2. Use a well-drained medium and do not plant the plugs too deeply. It is not recommended to add slow-release fertilizer to the substrate.

**Light:** Day length neutral plants. Provide 3,500-4,000 ft. candles (35,000-40,000 lx) for the fastest finish.

**Temperature:** Ensure 16-18 °C (60-64 °F) during days, 10-12 °C (50-54 °F) during nights after transplanting. Afterwards, a frost-free production (indoors or outdoors) with a minimum temperature of 3-5°C (38-41 °F) at night is recommended. For outdoor production, a fleece cover is required in case of frost. Cooler temperatures promote a stable, compact and well-branched plant habit. Temperatures above 12 °C (54 °F) will result in large foliage, thin and long flower stems. 4-6 weeks

prior shipping, start raising the temperature to 10-12 °C (50-54 °F).

**Moisture:** Bellis are sensitive to watering stress, so keep the moisture level constantly to a medium (2).

**Humidity:** 40-60 % humidity is ideal. High ratees or wet foliage will cause botrytis.

**Fertilizer:** Moderate fertilization levels are required. Fertilize the crop every two weeks with 100-175 ppm nitrogen, using a complete balanced fertilizer. Under low light and cool temperatures, use a potassium-based fertilizer (16-5-25). Avoid high ammonium and high nitrogen levels. The roots are sensitive to high salt levels. Once the plants begin to build buds, the frequency of fertilization must be increased to avoid chlorosis.

**Growth Regulators:** B-Nine (daminozide) used as a spray at 1,000-2,000 ppm as required. Bellis are sensitive to high concentration of propiconazole, this can result in leaf damage. Fungicides: Do not plant the plugs too deeply. Apply fungicides as needed to control root and leaf diseases.

**Common Diseases:** Botrytis, rust, mildew.

**Pests**: Primarily aphids.

**Post Harvest:** 4-6 weeks prior shipping, raise the temperature to 10-12 °C (50-54 °F).

**Plug & Finished Crop Time**
**Plug Crop Time**
288 tray: 5-6 weeks
128 tray: 7-8 weeks

**Finished Crop Time (from 288 tray)**
Fall: 5-8 weeks
Spring – pack: 10-12 weeks
Spring – 10-12 cm (4-5"): 12-14 weeks

**Moisture Codes**

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| **Saturated (5)** | Water is easily observed when finger is pressed on cell. Water moves freely from the top of the plug to the bottom. |
| **Wet (4)** | Media looks black and is not glistening. The media feels wet to the touch but there is very little water movement. |
| **Moist (3)** | Water is not easily visible. When finger is pressed on the cell there is very little movement from top to bottom. |
| **Medium (2)** | Media is not black, but now looks medium brown. There is no water movement when pressed with finger. |
| **Dry (1)** | Media has changed color to a very light brown and is dry to the touch. |

All information in our technical guide is based on our own trials and would therefore be as guideline only. Detailed cultivation aspects vary depending on climate, location, time of year and environmental conditions. Benary expressly disclaims any responsibility for the content of such data/information and makes no representation or warranty for the cultivation of any products listed. It is recommended that growers conduct a trial of products under their own conditions.

# COLORS OF THE SERIES

Bellis perennis Speedstar® Plus



**White**
BP0204P



**Red**
BP0203P



**Rose**
BP0202P



**Mix**
BP0299P