

# Delphinium elatum Magic Fountains Dark Blue White Bee

Item no.: K2430

## Crop Time

Spring: 18 - 22 weeks

## Height

105cm

## Exposure

Sun - Partial shade

## Seed Form

Raw Seed

## Hardiness Zone

3b-7b

## Best Uses

Bedding, Cutflower, Landscape

## Culture guide

### Usage

Background plant, cut flower

### Sowing method

2-3 seeds per plug

### Germination

12-18 days at 21-24 °C (70-75 °F), in media with low soluble salt levels and pH 5.5-6.5. Cover seed with vermiculite, sand or substrate after sowing. Keep soil slightly moist but not wet.

## **Growing on**

4-6 weeks after sowing transplant 1 plant into a pot 8-10 cm (3-4") and 4-6 weeks later transplant into a container 5-10 l (1,5-2,5 gallon). For flowering pot production ensure good pot size, to encourage root growth, thus improving plant quality. Plant cut flowers in 25 x 25 cm (10 x 10") space (annual production) or 50 x 50 cm (20 x 20") (perennial production). Strain wires alongside the plants for the spikes.

## **Media**

Use a well-drained, growing substrate with 10-30 % clay, 0-15 % parts (e.g. bark, sand, perlite), 1-2 kg /m<sup>3</sup>, complete balanced fertilizer. 2-4 kg/m<sup>3</sup> slow release fertilizer (3-9 months), iron-chelate, micronutrients, pH 5.5-6.5. Field: well-drained, moderate nutrition supply, humus, loamy soils. Standard fertilization: 60-80 g/m<sup>2</sup> slow release fertilizer (potassium balanced). Do not improve the soil with peat. Keep the soil open.

## **Temperature**

Grow at 15-18 °C (59-64,5 °F) or outdoors. In winter indoors frost free at 3-5 °C (37,5-41 °F) or outdoors. Outdoor fleece cover and dry substrate needed. In spring the plants start to grow for 10-12 weeks at 15-18 °C (59-64,5 °F). A chilling period for flower initiation is not required.

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Stage I Starts with the radicle breaking through the testa. The roots are touching the medium. Ends with fully developed cotyledons.

Stage II Starts from fully developed cotyledons. Ends with the fully developed true leaf or true leaf pair.

Stage III Starts from the fully developed true leaf or true leaf pair and ends with 80% of the young plants being marketable.

Stage IV All young plants are ready for sale and in the process of being hardened off. This stage

lasts about 7 days.

The cultural recommendations are based on results from trials conducted under Central European conditions. Different conditions in other parts of the world may lead to deviations in results achieved.