





1. [Home](#)

Helianthus annuus F?

Bert[®]

- Bert[®] – the perfect gift plant
- Large flowered, pollenless F? hybrid
- Bright yellow flowers with chocolate center, lush green foliage
- Reliable high germination rates
- Rated as one of the best varieties by LVA Heidelberg

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Crop Time

Spring: 8 - 10 weeks

Height

15 ? / 38 cm

Exposure

Sun

Seed Form

Raw Seed

Best Uses

Bedding, Cutflower

Culture guide

Usage

Pots, Mixed Containers and Landscape

Sowing method

1-2 seeds per plug. Can be sown directly into the finished container

Germination

Plug Culture:

Optimum conditions for seedling development, beginning on the day of sowing until radicle emergence. Expect radicle emergence in 3-5 days.

Media

Plug Culture:

Saturate (5) for the first 2-3 days and then reduce the moisture level to moist (3) on day 4. On day 10 reduce the media moisture further to a medium (2). Alternate between wet (4) and

medium (2), allowing the media to approach a medium (2) before re-saturating to wet (4).

Growing On:

Alternate between moisture levels wet (4) and medium (2). Allow the media to reach a moisture level medium (2) before re-saturating to a wet (4). Never allow the media to dry out completely since yellowing of the lower leaves can occur.

Temperature

Plug Culture:

70-75 °F (21-24 °C) until day 5 and then reduce to 68-70 °F (18-20 °C). Temperatures below 54 °F (12 °C) will result in slow and uneven germination.

Growing On:

59-64 °F (15-18 °C) nights, 64-70 °F (18-21 °C) days. An ADT (average daily temperature) of 67 °F (19 °C) will give the fastest finished crop.

Fertilization

Plug Culture:

Maintain an EC 1.0. Fertilized water should not exceed an EC of 0.5

Growing On:

Helianthus require high fertilization levels. Fertilize the crop weekly at 200-250 ppm nitrogen, using a potassium balanced fertilizer (N:K?O – ratio 1:1.5). Blended fertilizers that are used for flowering can be used (11-7-23). If fertilizers with high potassium are not available then a complete calcium- based fertilizer can be used (14-4-14 or 15-5-15). Under high light levels a 17-5-17 fertilizer can be used. Application of magnesium sulfate (0.05%) can be made 1-2 times at 100 ppm to prevent magnesium deficiency. In case of iron deficiency apply iron-chelate 1-2 times.

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.

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