

Penstemon digitalis Mystica

Item no.: S9230T

Crop Time

Spring: 25 - 26 weeks

Height

75cm

Exposure

Sun - Partial shade

Seed Form

ApeX

Hardiness Zone

4a-8b

Best Uses

Bedding, Cutflower

Culture guide

Usage

Plants for border and landscape, container plants for patio, plants attract bees and butterflies, cut flower production

Sow time

January-March for green pots; June-August for flowering in pots the following year

Sowing method

1 seed per plug

Germination

10-15 days at 68-72 °F (20-22 °C). Cover seed lightly with coarse vermiculite and maintain moist but not saturated soil moisture levels

Growing on

Transplant plugs 5-8 weeks after sowing into a well drained media with a pH between 6.2-6.8. Grow on at 55-65 °F (13-18 °C). Fertilize weekly at 200 ppm nitrate nitrogen in a 2-1-2 ratio mix. Plants require vernalization to flower.

Media

Use a well-drained, growing substrate with 15-30 % clay, 0-20 % parts (e.g. bark, perlite, sand), 1,5-3 kg/m³ complete balanced fertilizer, 0-3 kg/m³ slow release fertilizer (3-9 months), iron-chelate, micronutrients, pH: 5.8-6.2. Field: sandy humus soils with good drainage. Standard fertilization: 80-100 g/m² of a slow release fertilizer.

Temperature

Grow at 13-18 °C or outdoors. In winter indoors frost free at 3-5 °C or outdoors. Outdoor fleece cover needed. In spring the plants start to grow at 13-18 °C. A chilling period (vernalization) is required for flower initiation. *P. digitalis* can also be made to flower earlier in the polytunnel.

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.