

Scabiosa caucasica

# Fama®

**Deep Blue**

Item no.: SC0101R/C



- FastraX perennial: first year flowering without vernalization
- Huge, delicate blooms
- Great use as cut flower
- High number of flower stems the first year

<b>Crop Time</b>	Spring: 18 - 22 weeks
<b>Height</b> ⌀	22 " / 55 cm
<b>Exposure</b>	Sun - Partial shade
<b>Seed Form</b>	Raw Seed, BeGreen Coating
<b>Heat Zone</b>	8-5
<b>Hardiness Zone</b>	4-8
<b>Product Use</b>	Bedding, Cutflower, Landscape
<b>Family, Origin</b>	Caprifoliaceae, Caucasus region
<b>Minimum Germ. Rate</b>	75 %

## TECHNICAL GUIDE

Scabiosa caucasica Fama®

### Flowering

**Flowering Type:** FastraX perennial – first year flowering plant without vernalization. Day neutral plant; will flower regardless of day length.

**Flowering Mechanism:** High light intensity and warmer temperatures shorten the total crop time.

### Plug Culture

**Germination:** Provide optimum conditions for seedling development beginning on the day of sowing until radicle emergence. Expect radicle emergence in 10–14 days.

**Cover:** Light is required for germination; cover the seeds only lightly with vermiculite.

**Sowing Method:** 1–2 seeds per plug.

**Media:** pH 5.8–6.2; EC 0.5–0.75.

**Temperature:** Maintain 18–20 °C (64–68 °F) for the first two weeks. Once cotyledons have expanded, reduce to 16–18 °C (60–64 °F).

**Moisture:** Begin with wet (4) media for germination. After 10 days, reduce to moist (3) and then further to medium (2) until transplanting. A relatively dry cultivation is recommended.

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

**Light:** After radicle emergence, provide 2,000–2,500 ft. candles (20,000–25,000 lx). Later, increase up to 4,000–5,000 ft. candles (40,000–50,000 lx). Harden plants before transplanting so they can tolerate full sun outdoors.

**Fertilizer:** Maintain EC < 1.2. Begin fertilizing early to improve seedling quality. Start at 50–100 ppm nitrogen and gradually increase to 100–175 ppm during plug production. Use a complete balanced fertilizer.

**Plug Bulking and Flower Initiation:** Maintain optimal vegetative conditions from cotyledon expansion to flower initiation. Vernalization is not required.

**Growth Regulators:** For cut flower production, no growth regulators should be used.

For transplanting as cut flower, 45 plants/m<sup>2</sup> are recommended. For the first harvest, expect 5–10 stems per plant, and 10–20 stems for the second harvest. Do not plant the plugs too deep.

### Growing On

**Media:** pH 5.5–6.0; EC 1.0–1.3.

**Light:** Once transplanted into the field or greenhouse, additional light is no longer possible. Long days are not required for flowering. High light intensity and warmer temperatures shorten the total crop time.

**Temperature:** For spring sowings, maintain 12–15 °C (54–59 °F) day and night after transplanting, as lower temperatures can cause premature flowering and poor performance. For overwintering indoors, ensure frost-free conditions at 3–5 °C (37–41 °F) minimum and low humidity. Plants can be forced for flowering with increasing temperatures: maintain 12–15 °C (54–59 °F) for 10–12 weeks or 16–18 °C (61–64 °F) for 6 weeks.

**Moisture:** Scabiosa does not like to stay wet, so avoid overwatering. If irrigation is possible, allow the media to dry back before re-saturating.

**Fertilizer:** Moderate fertilization levels are required. Fertilize weekly with 100–150 ppm nitrogen using a complete balanced fertilizer. Prevent magnesium and iron deficiency. During spring forcing, fertilize at 150–200 ppm nitrogen using a potassium-balanced fertilizer.

**Growth Regulators:** For cut flower production, no growth regulators are required.

**Fungicides:** Apply fungicides during extended periods of low light, cool temperatures, and high humidity.

**Common Diseases:** Botrytis, downy mildew, root rot.

**Pests:** Aphids, mites.

**Harvest:** Harvest stems once 50% of the florets have opened. Harvested buds will not open later. Three harvest cycles per planting can be expected.

**Post Harvest:** Include an ethylene-inhibiting product to avoid flower shattering and decay. Hydrate stems immediately after cutting and store in a cooler at 1–3 °C (34–38 °F) until use.

## **Plug & Finished Crop Time**

### **Plug Crop Time**

288 tray: 6-7 weeks

128 tray: 7-8 weeks

### **Finished Crop Time (from 288 tray)**

Autumn plantings: 26-30 weeks

Spring plantings: 12-14 weeks

### **Expert Tip**

Fama<sup>®</sup> is tested as cut flower to ensure excellent flower and stem quality, reliable stem yield per variety, and long vase life. Cultivation is suitable in greenhouses, tunnels or open fields for cut flower usage. Sowing takes place from January to March for flowering in summer, or from June to August for overwintering with flowering the following spring. Cold treatment (vernalization) is not required.

### **Moisture Codes**

**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

Scabiosa caucasica Fama<sup>®</sup>



**White**  
SC0102R/C



**Deep Blue**  
SC0101R/C