

Begonia x benariensis F<sub>1</sub>

**BIG® & Whopper®**

## The Ultimate Color Show

- Super-sized color for any landscape
- Focal point in large containers; baskets or mixes
- A premium product that's easy to grow
- Thrives in full sun to full shade
- Outstanding performance in all regions



I'M  
KIND OF  
A **BIG**  
DEAL.



BIG® in Berlin, Germany



Deep Rose Bronze Leaf



Pink Bronze Leaf



Pink Green Leaf  
U.S. Patent No.: 9,295,208



Rose Bronze Leaf



Red Bronze Leaf



Red Green Leaf



Rose Green Leaf  
U.S. Patent No.: 9,295,209



White Green Leaf  
Utility Patent Pending

Begonia x benariensis F<sub>1</sub>

**BIG®**

**XL!**



BIG® White Green Leaf

**BIG® Begonia**, the most trusted  
begonia in it's class. Period.





BIG® Deep Rose Bronze Leaf

“THE Best  
Landscape  
Begonias  
Worldwide.”

### BIG® is Beautiful!

- Better show of color – flowers on top of foliage
- Naturally shiny leaves give a “manicured” look
- Huge flowers last until frost
- Intense flower colors

### BIG® is Easy!

- Drought tolerant – only needs 1” (2.5 cm) of water per week
- Heat and cold tolerant
- Disease resistant
- Thrives in every region
- Handles the harsh transition from full sun to full shade

### BIG® is Profitable!

- Well branched plants fill in quickly
- Two weeks earlier than other begonias on the market



Whopper® Mix



BIG Begonia



@big\_begonia  
@iamkindofabigdeal\_  
#BIGbegonia



Whopper® is THE landscapers' favorite  
for low-maintenance, high-impact color.

Begonia x benariensis F<sub>1</sub>

**Whopper®**

**XXL!**



Red Bronze Leaf



Rose Bronze Leaf



Red Green Leaf



Rose Green Leaf



White Green Leaf

Exclusively available through  
Ball Seed in North America.

Whopper® is even bigger!

- Whopper® begonias are 20-25% larger than BIG®
- Eye-catching season extenders for large pots & baskets
- Perfect for large plantings
- Holds up to very cool temperatures once established
- Fewer plants needed for coverage
- A premium plant for premium programs



**NEW** Whopper®  
White Green Leaf



Begonia x benariensis F<sub>1</sub>

## The perfect Team

Actual Size



You grow them about the same...

- Outstanding germination
- Consistent, uniform plug development
- Start from a large plug (128 or 144) for a fast, easy finish
- Space plants early for better branching
- Finish cool to help tone the plants and reduce stretch

...But in some ways they're different.

- Since Whopper® is bigger it takes just a little longer to build the plant; for best results, add a week to your finish crop time
- BIG® can be grown in anything from a 306 pack to your largest hanging basket
- Whopper® is best in a 5" (12,5 cm) pot or larger

Whopper® are 20-25% larger than BIG®!

**BIG®** 24-32" (60-80 cm) Height



**Whopper®** 32-40" (80-100 cm) Height



## Technical Information

### Uses: Annual

Packs, pots, hanging baskets, mixed containers and landscape

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

**Sowing media:** pH 5.5-5.8; EC 0.5-0.75

No covering required.

### Plug Culture

**Temperature:** Maintain 72-76 °F (22-24 °C) days 1-11.

For irrigation use warm water (above 64 °F/18 °C) only.

**Moisture:** Begin with a saturated (5) for the first 10 days. On day 11 begin to alternate between a wet (4) and a moist (3) until day 21. On day 21 it is critical to begin a good wet (4) to dry (1) cycle. At this point you can alternate between a wet (4) and a medium (2).

**Humidity:** 95-100% until day 11; on day 11 dehumidify, moving from 100% to 40-60%.

**Light:** Light is not necessary for germination but will benefit by giving a faster, more uniform germination. Once established in stage two the light levels can be increased. On days 12-14 light levels can be increased to provide 6-8 mols/day or 2,000-2,500 ft. candles (20,000-25,000 lux).

**Fertilizer:** Maintain an EC < 1.0. Fertigation water should not exceed an EC of 0.5. Initial feeding should be with a balanced fertilizer low in ammonium. Begin feeding with a 14-4-14, 14-2-14 or 17-5-17 fertilizer at 50-60 ppm.

### Growing On

**Media:** pH 5.5-5.8; EC 1.2-1.5

Avoid watering plants under high temperature and light when the leaf temperature is excessive.

|          | ↑                  | ↔           | ☀           | ○○○      |
|----------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|----------|
| BIG®     | 24-32" / 60-80 cm  | 16" / 40 cm | Sun – Shade | Pelleted |
| Whopper® | 32-40" / 80-100 cm | 18" / 46 cm | Sun – Shade | Pelleted |

**Temperature:** Maintain 68-70 °F (20-21 °C) night and day for the first 14 days or until the roots reach the bottom of the container.

Thereafter temperatures may be lowered to 64-67 °F (18-19 °C) day and night. Once well established in the final container, approximately two to three weeks after transplanting from a 288 plug the temperature can be lowered further to 56-58 °F (13-15 °C).

**Fertilization:** Moderate fertilization levels are required. Begin fertilizing early to improve seedling quality. Fertilize the crop weekly with 50-100 ppm, working up to 100-150 ppm. Under high light conditions use an ammonium based fertilizer (17-5-17) and under low light use a calcium based fertilizer (14-4-14).

**Light:** Provide 4,000-6,000 ft. candles (35,000-50,000 lux).

**Plant treatment:** If needed apply Cycocel (chlormequat chloride) as a spray at 250-300 ppm 1-2 weeks after transplant. Apply fungicides during long periods of low light and high humidity.

**Post Harvest:** To maintain quality fertilize with potassium nitrate at 100 ppm 1-2 weeks prior to shipping.

**Tips for Success:** Reducing the temperature to 56-58 °F (13-15 °C) in the finishing stages, 2-3 weeks after transplanting will keep plants toned with slightly smaller leaves.

| Plug Crop Times                    |           |          |
|------------------------------------|-----------|----------|
|                                    | BIG®      | Whopper® |
| 288 tray                           | 7-8 wks   | 7-8 wks  |
| 128 tray                           | 9-10 wks  | 9-10 wks |
| Finished Crop Time (from 288 tray) |           |          |
|                                    | BIG®      | Whopper® |
| 4" / 10 cm pots                    | 9-10 wks  | 8-9 wks  |
| 6" / 15 cm pots                    | 10-11 wks | 9-10 wks |

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