

Callistephus
chinensis

Hulk

Hulk – what a unique character!

- Abundant long flower stems –
Economical production
- Unique trendy green flowers
- Long vase life – High consumer satisfaction

Technical Information

Life Cycle: Annual

Exposure: Full Sun or Bright Greenhouse

Use: Field cut flower, garden accent plant or greenhouse

Height: 55-65 cm (20-24")

Sowing Time: Sow all year round for greenhouse cut flower production from February through June for field cut production. Sow February through March for green plant retail sales in May.

Germination: 7-14 days at 21 °C (70 °F). Do not cover seed as light improves germination and uniformity of emergence. From emergence insure 14-16 hour long days or provide 4 hours night interruption for proper stem development.

Plug Culture: Stage II (7 days), grow on at 20-21 °C (68-70 °F) and continue long day conditions. Feed once with 50-75 ppm nitrogen maintaining soil EC <0.75. During Stage III (14-21 days) lower temperatures to 18-20 °C (65-68 °F) and fertilize weekly with 100-150 ppm nitrate nitrogen in a well balanced formula. During Stage IV lower temperatures to 15-17 °C (60-62 °F) and continue fertilization at Stage III levels. Maintain low soil moisture level through production.

Media: Use well drained media during plug and pot production. Avoid heavy wet soils when finishing.

Transplant: Transplant plugs into cell packs 4-6 weeks after sowing. Transplant to field 3-4 weeks after transplanting into packs.

Spacing: 25 x 25 cm (10" x 10") for greenhouse cuts 10 x 20 cm (4" x 8") to 30 x 46 cm (12" x 18") for field production.

Flower Initiation: Several variables affect flower initiation including day length and temperature. Flowers are initiated under long day conditions and stem length is increased when day length is greater than 14 hours. Four hour night interruption is also effective to induce flowering. Optimum production temperatures are 15-18 °C (59-64 °F). Flowering may be delayed at higher or lower temperatures.

Harvest: Cut stems when flowers are fully formed.





Post Harvest: Citric based preservatives with 5 % sugar can help prolong vase life. Store at 0-4 °C (32-39 °F).

Cultural Hints: Monitoring and control of leaf hoppers is an important aspect to commercial aster production. Avoid excessive nitrogen levels and wet heavy soils.



The unique character and green color make this a special-interest product at the wholesale and retail levels



			
50-60 cm	25-46 cm	Sun – Partial Shade	Raw

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