

Cultural Information for:	Calibrachoa Calipetite Series®	Annual
Common Name:	Calibrachoa	
Botanical Name:	Calibrachoa hybrida	
Optimum Rooting Temperature:	68-70°F / 20-21°C	
Optimum Growing Temperature:	68°F / 20°C	

Propagation: 5 weeks

Rooting: Avoid applying too much mist in propagation as excess water slows rooting. For the best results use a rooting hormone with up to 2500 ppm of IBA. Mixtures that also include up to 500 ppm of NAA work well too. Bottom heat enhances root development. Maintain soil temperatures between 68-70°F/ 20-21°C.

Forcing to flower:

Potting: Plant one rooted cutting per 4 or 5 inch/10 or 12 cm. pot. For 10 inch/25 cm. hanging baskets plant 4-5 liners per basket.

Media: Select a sterile, well-aerated mix. The optimum pH range is between 5.5 and 6.0. Consider that the water-holding capacity that is best for consumer performance may be greater than what is ideal for production.

Irrigation/Fertilization: Avoid excessive irrigation when the plants are young. Feed with a complete, balanced fertilizer at 250-350 ppm nitrogen (constant liquid feed/CLF). An EC level of 2.5-2.8 (2:1 dilution) is a good target range under most conditions. Provide a complete minor element program. Extra iron applications may be required to promote good leaf color. Apply iron sulfate drenches, (avoiding contact with the foliage), or iron chelate sprays or drenches. The use of Osmocote® or other appropriate slow-release fertilizer products may be beneficial in supplementing a CLF program and may provide improved performance for the consumer. Provide periodic clear water applications if excess soluble salts accumulate.

Temperature/Humidity: Establish the crop warm at an average temperature of 65°F/18°C. Once established grow at 65-70°F/18-21°C during the day and at 63-65°F/17-18°C at night. For fast cropping, establish and grow at an average daily temperature of 68°F/20°C. Provide good air circulation at all times. Maintain relative humidity below 70% to prevent diseases like Botrytis gray mold.

Light: Bright light is ideal for this crop. Provide a minimum of 5,000-6,000 foot candles/53,800-64,600 lux. Calibrachoa Calipetite is day length neutral but performs best with good light quality. The use of supplemental light may be beneficial for early spring production in areas with low light levels or during cloudy periods.

Pinching: Pinching out the growing tip at transplant, or shortly afterwards, promotes branching and fuller plants.

Plant Growth Regulators (PGRs): Calipetite is naturally compact and **does not require chemical plant growth regulation**. The use of PGR's (especially during propagation) can result in severely stunted growth and

care should be taken to avoid any exposure or overspray. Under rare conditions (low light, warm temperatures, positive DIF, etc.) growers may experience some unwanted stretching. Use high light, cool temperatures and a slight negative DIF for controlling or managing plant height.

Gibberellic Acid: It is best to establish the crop warm and then finish cool to enhance flower color. In cool northern areas it may be necessary to accelerate growth for a faster finish. Apply gibberellic acid at 1-5 ppm (ProGibb®, Florgib®) a few weeks after transplanting after establishing in the final container (roots to the bottom) to stimulate growth.

Note: Do not use Fascination® as it damages the foliage.

Cultivar	Recommend PPM
Mid Blue, White	1-2 ppm
Blue,	2-3 ppm
Pink, Red, Yellow	3-5 ppm

Insects: Aphids, caterpillars, fungus gnats, leaf miners, thrips and whitefly.

Disease: Botrytis (gray mold), powdery mildew, root and stem rots, viruses.

Troubleshooting:

Symptom: Yellowing of young foliage: May be due to a malfunctioning fertilizer injector, high pH (>6.5), or low media iron levels.

Symptom: Yellowing of lower foliage: May be due to a malfunctioning injector resulting in low nitrogen levels in soil or tissue, high salts, low magnesium levels, (supplement with magnesium sulfate), or root and stem rot.

Nutrient Deficiencies

For a link to pictures of different nutrient deficiencies and corrective measures on Calibrachoa please visit.

<http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/floriculture/def>

Crop Scheduling:

Pot Size	Plant per pot	Total Crop Time*
4 inch/10 cm.	1	10-11 weeks
5 inch/12 cm.	1	11-12 weeks
6 inch/15 cm.	2	12-13 weeks
10 inch/25 cm.	4	13-14 weeks

**from unrooted cutting (5 weeks rooting time)*

“All information given is intended for general guidance only and may have to be adjusted to meet individual needs. Cultural details are based on North American conditions and Sakata cannot be held responsible for any crop damage related to the information given herein. Application of recommended growth regulators and chemicals are subject to local and state regulations. Always follow manufacturer's label instructions. Testing a few plants prior to treating the entire crop is best.”