

<b>Cultural Information for:</b>	Poppy Wonderland	Annual
<b>Common Name:</b>	Poppy	
<b>Botanical Name:</b>	Papaver nudicaule	
<b>Seed Count:</b>	142,000 /ounce	5,000 / gram
<b>Optimum Germination Temperature:</b>	59°F / 15°C	
<b>Optimum Growing Temperature:</b>	45-50°F / 7-10°C	

*Poppy Wonderland series features large flowers measuring 4 inches/10 cm. across on short and strong stems 10 inches/25 cm. tall. The plants are very hardy and may be used as both an annual and biennial. Colors include orange shades, white shades, pink shades and yellow shades. Recommended for 4 inch/10 centimeter pots for early spring bedding sales.*

### Plug Culture – 6 weeks (288 / 12 x 24 tray)

**Stage One** (days 1-14) Single sow seed in a sterile and well drained media. Leave the seed exposed to light during germination. A light cover of vermiculite may be applied, if necessary, to maintain sufficient moisture. Optimum pH is 5.8 to 6.2 with an EC of 0.5 mmhos (2:1 dilution).

**Stage Two** (days 15-21) After germination move the plug trays to a bright and cool greenhouse with a temperature of 45-50°F/7-10°C. Apply a light fertilizer of 50-75 ppm Nitrogen using a well balanced calcium nitrate based formulation. Optimum EC is 0.7 mmhos.

**Stage Three** (days 22-35) Maintain optimum growing temperatures and high light conditions. Seedlings are sensitive to high salt levels so fertilize with 100 ppm N as needed to maintain a media EC between 0.8 and 1.0 mmhos (2:1 dilution).

**Stage Four** (days 36-42) The seedlings are approaching transplant stage. Do not allow seedlings to wilt as they have a delicate root system and do not easily recover.

### Transplant to Flower – 14-20 weeks

**Media:** Select a sandy, rich and well drained sterile media with a pH of 5.8 to 6.2 and a low starter charge of 0.5 mmhos (2:1 dilution).

**Container Sizes:** Poppy Wonderland can be sold green in cell packs or in flower in 4-inch/10 centimeter pots.

**Fertilizer:** Poppy Wonderland is not a high feed crop and does best with a well balanced calcium nitrate based formulation. Optimum pH is 5.8 to 6.2 with an EC of 0.8 to 1.0 mmhos.

**Temperature:** Optimum day temperature is 50-55°F/10-13 °C with a night temperature of 45°F/7°C. Poppy Wonderland will withstand considerable cold weather but foliage and flower buds will tend to turn brown under freezing conditions and become very unsightly. To avoid this some heating during periods of extremely cold weather is recommended. Mature plants will bloom earlier under sunny greenhouse conditions, if the night temperature is kept at 45-50°F/7-10°C.

### **Growing Schedule - 4 inch/10 cm. pot culture:**

Sow	Flower	Structure
September	February	Greenhouse
September	March/April	Cold Frame*
December/February	May/June	Cold Frame*

*\*minimum heating / above freezing (>32°F/0°C)*

**Pests and diseases:** No major pests. Root diseases, (Pythium or Phytophthora), may occasionally be a problem in poorly drained soil.

*“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.”*