



Production Guidelines 306 Containers

Production Goal: SunPatiens feature an aggressive root system and vigorous growth habit. The following information is provided to produce high quality 306-Packs of SunPatiens with 50% + color **8-9 weeks after sticking**.

Variety Selection: Varieties to include in your 306 program should be limited to SunPatiens Compact series. (Spreading and Vigorous series are not recommended in this size without prior experience.) Please note Compact Electric Orange is highly recommended over Compact Orange as it is earlier to bloom and better branched. Compact Magenta is the most vigorous of the series and may require more aggressive growth control under certain conditions.

Production Notes: High light and water management are critical to controlling plant height. The best method for minimizing stretch under high density conditions is to use PGR's early in the crop cycle, and limit water uptake and provide high light conditions later during the finish cycle. Flood floor irrigation is very difficult to implement water restriction practices and not recommended for producing multi-pack SunPatiens.

Production Week	Notes/Comments
0 (Transplant)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct stick cuttings into lightly moistened media (Do not soak the soil) Keep soil on the moist side, but not saturated. Avoid water stressing plants in early development, this will allow for healthy growth and provide energy for flower initiation. Water stress during the first three weeks may result in delayed flowering Transplanting into media without a starter charge is highly recommended to produce dense compact plants, but nutrient charge will need to be provided in the mist (17-5-17 at 50ppm N) to avoid flower delay
1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mist as needed to keep turgid, SunPatiens will root within the first 10-days after sticking Temperature 75°/68° F (day/night) Moderate humidity (50-60%) Light level around 2000 FC
3-4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin transition to finishing environment (higher light, lower humidity, lower temp) Temperature 70°/60° F (day/night) Relative humidity around 30-40% Increase light level to 3500-5000 FC, avoid growing baskets overhead Maintain moisture to about 40-50% container capacity (moderate) Following root establishment, begin weekly fertilizer at 65-75ppm N with a full minor complement. (Cal/Mag/low ammonium fertilizer such as 15-5-15 work best) PGR: 21 to 26 days after transplant, tank mix spray of B-Nine 1500 ppm + Bonzi 5 ppm A higher rate of 2500 B-Nine® + 10ppm Bonzi® may be considered if growing conditions warrant (low light conditions, higher temperatures, excessive irrigation, etc.)
5-Finish (up to 9 weeks)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water so as to maintain moisture in the container at 25 to 35% container capacity. Provide less water during each irrigation and less frequently, allowing plants to flag between irrigation cycles. Water should not saturate the bottom of the container. SunPatiens are much more tolerant to wilt and will not abort buds as easily as NGI. Provide 2-3" spacing between trays if possible to provide more uniform finish Maintain average daily temperatures of 65°F Monitor if a second PGR spray application is needed. Be sure to tone plants with high light (>5000 FC) and water restrictions at least 1-2 weeks prior to shipping (provides maximum shelf life and minimal transplant shock)

Additional Notes:

- Start with a small unrooted cutting with small leaves. Rooting hormone is not required or recommended.
- Begin toning right after callus & rooting begins. Do not allow plants to become soft or allow excess leaf expansion.
- Pinching: Do not pinch as it destroys the plant's natural symmetry and delays flowering.
- SunPatiens are day length neutral but a target of 10 moles of light is best for optimum flowering.
- PGR's: Florel and Sumagic are not recommended. If plants are too compact, resume normal irrigation practices

For more detailed information, please visit www.SunPatiens.com and download the complete SunPatiens Culture Guide.
Culture recommendations developed by Sakata Ornamentals with cooperation of Dr. Catherine Ku of the Ecke Ranch.



Week 2 Greenhouse Production



2 weeks production. Start with small URC and direct stick



Week 6-7 production bloom development



Target is 50% or more flowers at 7-8 weeks

“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 America 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.”