

**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  
**Optimum pH:** 5.5 – 6.2  
**EC – Liner:** 0.26 – 0.75 mmhos/cm (1:2) / 0.76 – 2.0 (SME)  
**EC – Finishing:** 0.76 – 1.25 mmhos/cm (1:2) / 2.1 – 3.5 (SME)

## 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 at 73-78°F/23-26°C and air temperature at 68-73°F/20-23°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. 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. Delay feeding until the roots are well established and then begin feeding with a complete, balanced fertilizer at 200-300 ppm N constant liquid feed (CLF). Provide a complete minor element program. Iron deficiency is a common problem if the pH rises above 6.5. Correct with an acid fertilizer, such as 21-7-7, plus iron chelate. Incorporating 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. Always provide good air circulation. 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 one may accelerate growth for a faster finish. Apply gibberellic acid at 1-3 ppm (ProGibb®, Florgib®) a few weeks after transplanting after establishing in the final container (roots to the bottom) to stimulate growth.

## Gibberellic Acid\* Application Rate

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

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

**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.

## 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 (4 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."*