VIRTUOSA

VINCA

A VARIETY OF COLORS
Matched PERFECTLY FOR *Flower*
TIMING AND *Habit*

SAKATA®

VIRTUOSA

VINCA

The uniformity of Virtuosa is unrivalled—grow them all the same or mix and match any colors. They will thrive in the heat and will even perform well under cooler, less than optimum conditions allowing for a quality early season crop.

THE Elegance OF VIRTUOSA

COMPACT UNIFORMITY
Compact F1 hybrid and uniform habit

EXCELLENT FOR POTTING
Great basal branching in pots

STRONG PETALS
Strong petals with round flower shape

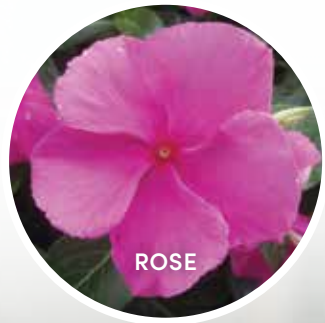
VERSATILE
Does well in the garden and withstands extreme conditions

HEAT & COLD
Performs through conditions of warm and humid to cool and low light

VIRTUOSA
VINCA

Virtuosa is the perfect all weather vinca that is excellent for potting in hot or cool conditions. With its compact uniformity and strong petals, it's sure to stun in the garden.

VINCA | BEDDING	
SEED FORM	Standard
CROP TIME	8 - 11 Weeks
CONT. SIZE	Packs, 4 - 6"
PLANT HEIGHT	12-14"
PLANT WIDTH	12-16"
COLORS/MIXES	12 / 1
HEAT LOVER	Yes
QUARTS OK	Yes



TRY OUR VIRTUOSA MIX!

VIRTUOSA
VINCA

F1 hybrid vigor with the best uniformity across the colors. Virtuosa has large, overlapping petals and the energy to last all season. Even under less than optimum temperatures, Virtuosa will yield a handsome crop of healthy plants in packs, pots and containers.

VIRTUOSA VINCA	
TYPE	Annual
COMMON NAME	Vinca
BOTANICAL NAME	Catharanthus roseus
SEED COUNT	18,500/ounce 650/gram
OPTIMUM GERMINATION TEMPERATURE	75–78°F / 24–26°C
OPTIMUM GROWING TEMPERATURE	75–80°F / 24–27°C
OPTIMUM PH	5.8-6.2
PLUG-EC	0.4-0.8 mmhos/cm (1:2) / 0.9-2.0 (SME) / 1.1-2.6 (Pour Thru)
FINISHING-EC	0.9-1.3 mmhos/cm (1:2) / 2.1-3.5 (SME) / 2.7-4.6 (Pour Thru)

PLUG CULTURE 5 WEEKS (288 / 12 X 24 TRAY)

STAGE ONE (DAYS 1 –5): Select a sterile, soiless media and new plug trays to ensure a disease-free start. Lightly cover the seed with #2 course-grade vermiculite and maintain uniform moisture and a temperature of 75-78°F / 24-25°C.
Vinca Virtuosa germinates best in total darkness.

STAGE TWO (DAYS 6 – 14): Remove the seedlings from the germination area and provide, 1,500-2,000 f.c. / 16,000-22,000 lux with good ventilation. Reduce the humidity to 75% and the temperature to 72-75°F / 22-24°C. Apply a light feed of 50-75 ppm N using a well-balanced calcium-nitrate-based fertilizer as the first true leaves start to appear. Supplemental lighting is beneficial in promoting strong healthy plugs; especially in the north. Once full seedling stand is achieved apply a protective fungicide for pythium, rhizoctonia and thielaviopsis.

STAGE THREE (DAYS 15 – 28): As plants develop additional leaves, maintain warm temperatures, and fertilize at 100-150 ppm N or as needed to maintain strong growth. Light levels should be 2,500-3,000 f.c. / 27,000-30,000 lux. Allow the plugs to dry slightly between irrigations to promote a healthy and strong root system. Water early in the morning to allow the foliage to dry before sundown. If height control is needed, apply B-Nine (daminozide) at 2,500 ppm or A-Rest (ancymidol) at 5-10 ppm. Bonzi foliar sprays may cause leaf spotting of the lower foliage, especially at high temperatures.

STAGE FOUR (DAYS 29 – 35): When the plugs have 3-4 true leaves, they are ready to transplant. Reduce fertilizer and irrigations to prepare the plugs for transplanting or shipping. Do not reduce the temperature too much as vinca responds negatively to temperatures below 65°F / 18°C.

TRANSPLANTING TO FLOWER 4 – 6 WEEKS

TRANSPLANTING: Select a well-drained soilless media with a low nutrient charge. Carefully dislodge the plants from the plug tray in order to avoid root and stem damage. Also, be careful not to bury the plants too deeply as this encourages rhizoctonia.

FERTILIZER: Wait 7-10 days after transplanting, until the roots reach the container sides and bottom before applying fertilizer. Vinca does best with continuous feed at 100-150 ppm N, using a well-balanced fertilizer that is low in phosphorus. At lower nitrogen rates commercial fertilizers may not supply enough boron. To avoid a boron deficiency, target 0.25 ppm B. High pH causes iron deficiency but applying ammonium nitrate is not recommended. Periodic applications of magnesium using MgSO4 at 16 oz. /100 gallons - 120 grams/100 liters promote a deep green color.

TEMPERATURE: Vinca does best grown warm with high light. Ideal temperatures are 75-80°F / 24-27°C, during the day and 68-72°F / 20-22°C, at night. Avoid lower temperatures, (less than 65°F / 18°C), as this promotes leaf rolling and leaf chlorosis. Temperatures lower than 60°F / 16°C promote flower spotting.

DISEASES: Vinca has very few pest problems but can be seriously affected by disease. Thielaviopsis (black root rot) and Pythium are major greenhouse problems that are best controlled by practicing good sanitation. Fungicidal drenches can be applied as a preventive measure. However, good cultural practices, (growing the crop warm, providing good air movement, optimum media pH and allowing the media to dry slightly between irrigations), is the best defense.

GROWTH REGULATORS: Moisture stress, moderate fertilizer rates and high light levels (5,000 f.c. / 54,000 lux) are the best tools for controlling height. If necessary, foliar applications of A-Rest® (ancymidol) at 5-10 ppm or B-Nine® (daminozide) at 2,500 ppm work well. Do not apply growth retardants above 80°F / 27°C as foliar damage may occur.

MARKETING: Vinca Virtuosa is a uniform series with 1½-2" / 6 cm. sized flowers that produces strong upright and bushy plants (12-14" / 30-35 cm tall by 12-16" / 30-40 cm wide). Ideal for pots, packs and combination planters. Vinca Virtuosa is available in a wide range of colors.

CROP TIMING:

CONTAINER SIZE	TOTAL CROP TIME
Cell Packs	8-9 weeks
4-inch / 10 cm	9-10 weeks
6-inch / 15 cm	10-11 weeks

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