

Cultural Information for: Hypoestes Confetti Annual
Common Name: Polka Dot Plant
Botanical Name: Hypoestes phyllostachya
Seed Count: 25,500 /ounce 900 / gram
Optimum Germination Temperature: 68°F / 20°C
Optimum Growing Temperature: 66-68°F / 18-20°C
Optimum pH: 5.8 – 6.2
EC – Plug: 0.4 – 0.8 mmhos/cm (1:2) / 0.9 – 2.0 (SME) / 1.1 - 2.6 (Pour Thru)
EC – Finishing: 0.9 – 1.3 mmhos/cm (1:2) / 2.1 – 3.5 (SME) / 2.7 - 4.6 (Pour Thru)

Plug Stage – 5 weeks – (288 / 12 x 24 tray)

Stage One (days 1-3) Single sow seed into a slightly fertilized. Apply a light cover of medium vermiculite to maintain sufficient humidity. Optimum germination temperature is 68°F/20°C. If using a germination chamber, remove trays at radicle emergence to avoid stretched seedlings.

Stage Two (days 4-14) After germination is complete, place the seedlings in a bright greenhouse with good air circulation. Fertilize at 75 ppm N using a well-balanced Calcium nitrate-based formulation. Optimum temperature is 66-68°F/18-20°C. To promote rapid development, provide 16-hour photoperiod using 200-foot candles/ 2,500 lux.

Stage Three (days 15-28) The new leaves are beginning to form. Apply 100-150 ppm of N as needed. Optimum light level is 2,500-foot candles/ 26,000 lux.

Stage Four (days 29-35) The plants are approaching transplant stage. Reduce fertilizer and moisture levels to tone the plants and prepare them for potting.

Transplanting – 5 weeks - 48 plug cell

Media: Select a well drained media with a pH between 5.8 and 6.2.

Temperature: Optimum growing temperature is 66-70°F /18-21°C.

Light level: Optimum light level is 3,500-foot candles/ 36,000 lux. Avoid strong light (> 4,000-foot candles 43,000/lux) as this will cause leaf curl and delayed development. Supplemental lighting, especially during the short days of winter and early spring, will enhance growth and reduce crop time.

Fertilizer: Alternating between 15-5-15 Cal/Mag and 20-10-20 at 150-200 ppm N works well.

Growth Regulation: A tank mix of 1,000 ppm B-Nine® (daminozide) and 500 ppm Cycocel® (chlormequat) is effective once or twice a week. Begin spraying when the plants have 2 pairs of true leaves. During cooler weather reduce the concentration to 500/250 ppm. Cycocel also helps to intensify the leaf color.

Pests: Aphids and whitefly may occasionally be a problem; especially under warmer temperatures.

Diseases: No major pests or diseases.

Scheduling:

Variety	Cell Pack - 48	4 inch/10 cm. pot *
Compact	10-11 weeks	11-12 weeks

*multiple plugs

Characteristics:

Variety	Height	Width
Compact	4 inches / 10 cm.	6 inches / 15 cm.

Note: One may sow 5-7 seeds directly into a 4 inch/10 cm. pot and reduce crop time by one week.

“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.”