

Cultural Information for:	Sun Smile	Annual
Common Name:	Morning Glory	
Botanical Name:	Ipomoea sp.	
Seed Count:	454/ounce	16/gram
Optimum Germination Temperature:	70-75°F / 21-24°C	
Optimum Growing Temperature:	68°F / 20°C	

Morning Glories are gaining in popularity due to their ability to add interest to containers by cascading over the edge. Morning Glories are not difficult to grow and thrive in warm and humid climates. The flowers open each morning and remain open until the heat of the day ends their reign, thus the name *Morning* Glory. Sakata's Morning Glory Series 'Sun Smile' is quite unique and is ideally suited for mixed containers and hanging baskets. The plant features marbled green and white foliage with either bright red, violet, blue or pink colored blooms, edged white. The flowers open each morning adding additional color and interest to the foliage. Sun Smile is a dwarf type with a mounding habit that spreads 1 foot / 30 cm. Sun Smile is easy to grow and some guidelines for producing it are listed below.

Germination: Scarified seed is recommended to ensure high germination rates. Maintain a temperature of 70–75°F / 20–25°C for a period of 4-6 days with sufficient moisture levels. Seed can be directly sown into 4 inch/10 cm pots or grown in a large plug cell such as a 98 or 128 size.

Temperature: Maintain warm temperatures, above 68°F / 20°C, to ensure steady growth.

Fertilizer: Morning glories require little or no fertilizer to grow. Feed lightly with 50 ppm N from a well balanced calcium nitrate formulation as needed to maintain a nice green leaf color. Excess fertilizer will delay flowering and produce extra large foliage making shipping more difficult.

Timing: Morning Glory 'Sun Smile' will produce abundant vegetative growth under long day conditions, (> 13 hours), and produce flowers as the days start to shorten. Baskets can be sold in mid May from an early March sowing with flowering starting in mid July. In order to maximize vegetative growth for early spring sales in non-frost areas, (sowing December through mid March), provide long day conditions until the baskets are full. **Plants that are not started under long days will be stunted and have an excess of flower buds.** Baskets can be produced in 65-75 days as long as they are grown warm and with high light conditions.

Containers: Morning Glory Sun Smile can be sold in 4-5 inch/10-13 cm pots with a spread of 6-8 inches/15-20 cm. Sun Smile is ideal for hanging baskets. Three to five plugs will quickly fill 8–10 inch/20-25 cm baskets. Sun Smile also makes a nice addition to mixed containers and window boxes.

"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."