

Cultural Information for:	Petunia Hulahoop	Annual
Common Name:	Petunia	
Botanical Name:	Petunia grandiflora	
Seed Count:	255,000-312,000/oz.	9,000-11,000/ gram
Optimum Germination Temperature:	78°F / 26°C	
Optimum Growing Temperature:	55-68°F / 13-20°C	
Optimum pH:	5.5 – 6.0	
EC – Plug:	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)	

Plug Culture – 5 weeks (405 / 15 x 27 tray)

Stage One (days 1-7) Sow raw or pelleted seed into a well-drained sterile media and a temperature of 72-75°F/22-24°C. For proper and uniform germination do not cover the seed and use a fine mist for watering. If using pelleted seed, be sure to apply sufficient moisture at the start to thoroughly melt the pellets.

Stage Two (days 8-14) After the seedlings emerge reduce moisture levels and allow the media to dry slightly in between fertilizer applications. Apply 100 ppm of Nitrogen from a well-balanced calcium nitrate-based fertilizer and place in a well-ventilated greenhouse with high light. Optimum temperatures range from 65°F/18°C at night and 70°F/21°C during the day.

Stage Three (days 15-28) The seedlings are beginning to fill in the plug trays. Fertilize as needed to maintain strong growth. Supplemental lighting will promote leaf expansion and root development; especially during the darker months of January and February. If needed, apply B-Nine (daminozide) at 1,500 - 2,500 ppm / 0.15 – 0.25% as the leaves reach the plug tray edge to control growth.

Stage Four (days 29-35) The plants are now reaching maturity and are ready for transplanting into pots and packs. Reduce moisture and hold at 60°F/16°C, if necessary, until transplanted.

Transplanting

Container Size: Petunia Hulahoop may be sold in packs, pots and hanging baskets as well as combination planters.

Media: Use a well-drained disease-free, soilless media with a pH of 5.5 to 6.0 and a moderate fertilizer starter charge.

Temperature: Maintain night temperatures between 55-61°F/13-16°C and day temperatures between 61-68°F/16-20°C.

Fertilizer: Petunia Hulahoop is an early flowering petunia with average plant vigor. For best results, apply 150 - 200 ppm of nitrogen as needed by using a well-balanced fertilizer. Calcium nitrate-based fertilizers help to control growth but be sure to neutralize excess bicarbonate which raises the pH. Plants may be top dressed using a slow-release fertilizer 10 days prior to shipping to enhance consumer satisfaction.

Flowering: Petunia Hulahoop flowers in 10-12 weeks from sowing, depending upon day length and temperature.

Growth Regulators: Petunia Hulahoop may require growth regulation to produce salable plants. An application of 2,500 ppm/0.25% B-Nine (daminozide) ten days after transplanting will promote compact plants.

Culture Watch Points: As with other bicolored petunia, the Hulahoop Series is somewhat sensitive to growing environments and under certain conditions may show some variation in the color pattern. Care should be taken to select proper soil, optimum temperature and provide enough moisture and nutrients for best results.