

Scaevola

Whirlwind® and Wonder®



NUTRITION

pH: 5.5 – 5.8

EC: (2:1 extraction method) .6 – .9

Constant feeding at 200ppm nitrogen with a fertilizer selected for grower's water quality and soil mix is recommended.

Fertilizer blends with lower phosphorus levels are recommended.

TEMPERATURE

Rooting out: 65 – 72 F

Growing on: 65 – 72 F

Holding: 60 – 62 F

WATERING

Maintain moderate soil moisture. Allow the soil to cycle from moist to slightly dry. Avoid both severe dry downs/wilting and long periods of wet soil, especially at cooler temperatures.

Growing at lower moisture levels can be beneficial towards producing a more compact plant with fewer PGRs (plant growth regulators) required.

TIMING

4" – 5": 4 – 5 weeks with one 42 cell or 84 cell Supernova® plant per container.

6"/1GL Royale™: 5 – 7 weeks with one to two 42 cell or 84 cell Supernova plants per container.

8": 7 – 9 weeks with one to two 42 cell or 84 cell Supernova plants per container.

10" – 12" Hanging Basket: 10 – 12 weeks with 3 – 5 Standard 84 cell plants per container.

Supernova 42 liners are used at Four Star and are recommended for best flower timing, flower count, and plant size in smaller containers. Supernova 84s can also be considered. Supernova 84s may finish about 1 week later than the Supernova 42s. The Supernova 84 finishes faster and more consistently than Standard 84 liners. They offer an option that balances shipping costs with improved performance. If Standard 84s are used for spring production, supplemental lighting, additional crop time, pinching and additional PGR applications may be required.

Supernovas are not recommended or required for baskets and large containers, but many growers are beginning to use them for early hanging basket and upright needs. Growth habit and timing may be different from Standard 84 liners, but flowering time and "retail ready" containers can be produced in portions of the year when not possible from a standard liner. If mixing Supernova and Standard liners in combination plantings, a pre-plant drench of Sumagic® (uniconazole) or Bonzi® (paclobutrazol) to the **Standard** liners is usually required to even out plant growth and vigor.

PLANTING

Liners should be planted into a well drained soil mix selected to match individual water quality and fertilizer blends. Water in thoroughly without saturating the mix and maintain a constant moderate soil moisture level for the first seven to 10 days to establish new rooting. When using Supernova treated liners, NO pinching is required unless deemed taller than desired. If Standard liners are used, plants can be pinched again at transplant if desired. Or, an additional pinch for large containers can be given usually two to four weeks after planting.

LIGHT/LIGHTING

These plants should be grown in a high light area of the greenhouse for optimal plant development. *Scaevola* should be scheduled to finish based on their outdoor temperature requirements. Additional lighting is not required, but helpful in earlier crops. Crops planned from Supernova liners should not need additional lighting, unless planned for quite early finish dates.



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The rates and chemicals listed are based on our southeast Michigan growing conditions, and are not recommended for nationwide application. Please adjust the rates and spray applications to your location and facility.



GROWTH REGULATORS

Scaevola are quite responsive to PGRs. New Wonder® is the most vigorous – if growing from Standard liners, they will probably require a PGR treatment. If required, a light spray of Sumagic at 2ppm – 5ppm can be applied to New Wonder. Whirlwind White has moderate vigor and, if required, should be treated at the lower recommended rate. Pink Wonder® and Whirlwind Blue are less vigorous and fuller branching, and should require no PGRs, or at most, a light 2ppm Sumagic spray. Other materials such as Bonzi, Topflor® (flurprimidol) and Piccolo® (paclobutrazol) can be used at rates that correspond with the degree of treatment recommended for Sumagic, but trials should be run first due to PGR sensitivity. Drenches should not be considered, except possibly with New Wonder. High light levels and proper growing temperatures can be very helpful at managing plant size.

Florel® is very helpful as a spray at 350ppm – 500ppm, especially with New Wonder. Florel controls vigor to a slight degree, but also encourages branching. The liners have been treated with Florel through the growing process and one additional treatment two weeks after planting into larger containers can be considered. Please note that Florel treatments should be made at the latest seven weeks before desired sell date.

When using Supernova liners, please refer to the Supernova Culture Guide for specific PGR recommendations. Florel is not recommended for use with Supernovas, except possibly with *Nemesia* and *Diascia*.

PEST and DISEASE MANAGEMENT

There should be little instance of disease if basic cultural guidelines are followed. Over-watering can lead to foliar, stem or root rots. Provide good air movement and maintain moderate soil moisture levels. Whiteflies, Aphids, and Spider Mites can be an issue. Scout crops on a regular basis to avoid pest outbreaks.

OUTDOOR GROWING SCHEDULE

Scaevola finish best in a controlled greenhouse environment, but can be moved outdoors after all threat of frost has passed and weather is consistently warm (late May to early June in Michigan). This recommendation is based on average spring weather and should be adjusted for unseasonably severe or unseasonably mild conditions.

OTHER TIPS

- Provide high light and moderate soil moisture levels, and schedule for peak season and later finishing to ensure success.
- **Whirlwind Blue and Pink Wonder will require little to no PGR treatments. They are very responsive to PGRs and should be treated only if needed, and then done so at the lowest ppm level recommended.**