

Bidens Goldilocks Rocks[®], Campfire[®] Fireburst *Improved*



NUTRITION

pH: 5.8 – 6.2

EC: (2:1 extraction method) .6 – .9

Constant feeding at 150ppm – 200ppm nitrogen with a fertilizer selected for grower's water quality and soil mix is recommended.

TEMPERATURE

Rooting out: 65 – 72 F

Growing on: 58 – 68 F

Holding: 50 – 60 F

WATERING

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

TIMING

4" – 5": 4 – 6 weeks with one 84 or 104 cell plant per container.

6"/1GL Royale™: 5 – 7 weeks with one 84 or 104 cell plant per container.

8": 5 – 9 weeks with one to two 84 or 104 cell plants per container.

10" – 12" Hanging Basket: 9 – 12 weeks with three to five 84 or 104 cell plants per container.

PLANTING

The 84 and 104 Liner plants 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. Plants have already been pinched and further pinching should not be needed, except in the case of taller material at time of planting or a second pinch on plants for larger containers. This second pinch can be given for larger containers, usually three to four weeks after planting.

LIGHT/LIGHTING

These plants should be grown in a high light area of the greenhouse for optimal flowering and plant development. Goldilocks Rocks[®] flowers first, followed by Campfire[®] Fireburst *Improved*. Goldilocks Rocks can be used in earlier production, while Campfire Fireburst *Improved* will flower for peak week sales.

GROWTH REGULATORS

If required for Goldilocks Rocks, B-Nine[®] (daminozide) can be applied as a spray at 2,500ppm, or a light spray application of Sumagic[®] (uniconazole) at 5ppm. Caution should be taken using Sumagic with Goldilocks Rocks, as it is quite responsive to the PGR.

Fireburst *Improved* is more similar in vigor to Goldilocks Rocks but less so than the original offering. Fireburst *Improved* can now be finished in all container sizes. B-Nine applied as a spray at 2,500ppm or Sumagic also at a spray at 5ppm are effective. Cooler and drier growing conditions will produce a more compact and fuller plant.

PEST and DISEASE MANAGEMENT

There should be little instance of disease if basic cultural guidelines are followed. Proper temperature, light levels, and water management will eliminate most disease issues. A broad spectrum fungicide such as Banrot[®] (etridiazole plus thiophanate-methyl) can be applied at transplant, if desired. In poor growing conditions, Botrytis or Powdery Mildew can develop. Whiteflies, Thrips, and Aphids can be pests of concern.

OUTDOOR GROWING SCHEDULE

Both *Bidens* varieties can be grown outdoors in the third earliest spring conditions (approximately frost, or late April in Michigan), if frost protection is provided. This recommendation is based on average spring weather and should be adjusted for unseasonably severe or unseasonably mild conditions.

OTHER TIPS

- Goldilocks Rocks can be finished in small containers up to 10" mono baskets. They also perform well in combinations, when used with less than average to average vigor plants. Fireburst *Improved* can be grown in all container sizes if proper growing conditions are supplied and PGRs applied as needed.
- Proper soil pH levels should be maintained. Iron deficiency symptoms can develop in high pH situations. Also, if soil pHs reach 5.5 or lower, dark foliage color and plant stunting/distortion can occur.
- Both varieties can have flowering delay in dark and cool conditions, so supplemental lighting to 14 hours/daylength can help.



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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.