

Impatiens (Double)

Rockapulco®



NUTRITION

pH: 5.8 – 6.2

EC: (2:1 extraction method) .6 – .9

Constant feeding at 125ppm – 150ppm nitrogen with a fertilizer selected for grower's water quality and soil mix is recommended. If possible, avoid mixes containing high levels of ammoniacal nitrogen and phosphorus.

TEMPERATURE

Rooting out: 65 – 72 F

Growing on: 65 – 72 F

Holding: 60 – 65 F

WATERING

Maintain moderate to slightly dry soil moisture levels. 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. Growing at lower moisture levels can be beneficial toward producing a more compact plant with fewer PGRs required. Plants can be allowed to show slight signs of moisture stress before watering. When watering, do so lightly so moisture reaches the bottom of containers, but not to the point of saturating the soil. This practice can also be used to help "hold" plants.

TIMING

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

6"/1GL Royale™: 7 – 8 weeks with two 84 or 104 Liner plants per container.

8": 8 – 9 weeks with two to three 84 or 104 Liner plants per container.

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

PLANTING

The 84 and 104 Liner plants should be planted at or slightly deeper than the liner cell level 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. Pinching should not be needed, except in the case of taller material at time of planting.

LIGHT/LIGHTING

Rockapulco® *Double Impatiens* should be grown in a moderate light area of the greenhouse for optimal plant development.

Growing in a more shaded area will produce taller and softer growth that is less attractive and more disease prone. Additional lighting is not required for flowering.

GROWTH REGULATORS

If required, a light spray of Bonzi® (paclobutrazol) at 2ppm – 5ppm is effective. Other materials such as Sumagic® (uniconazole), Topflor® (flurprimidol), and Piccolo® (paclobutrazol) can be used at rates that correspond with the degree of treatment recommended for Bonzi, but should be trialed to match individual growing conditions. Drier growing practices and controlling fertilizer levels can be very helpful at managing plant size and encouraging flowering. Higher spray rates of Sumagic (10ppm – 15ppm) may be required if plants are grown under lower light levels and/or kept too moist.

PEST and DISEASE MANAGEMENT

There should be little instance of disease if basic cultural guidelines are followed. Provide adequate space, humidity control, and air movement to prevent Botrytis and other fungal disease. Avoid long periods of moisture on the foliage, especially in poor weather conditions. All liners are treated twice during the growing cycle to preventatively treat for Downy Mildew. Again, providing a proper greenhouse environment and watering practices will control this disease in the greenhouse. During the production cycle, a preventative fungicide treatment of a copper product or Alude™ can be considered.

Thrips, Aphids, and Fungus Gnats can be pests of concern. Scout specifically for Thrips — they can spread INSV (Impatiens Necrotic Spot Virus).

OUTDOOR GROWING SCHEDULE

Rockapulco should be grown outdoors only after the danger of frost has passed (mid- to late May in Michigan). The foliage can be damaged from a very light frost. These recommendations are based on average spring weather and should be adjusted for unseasonably severe or unseasonably mild conditions.

OTHER TIPS

Rockapulco *Double Impatiens* can be grown much like seed *Impatiens*. Provide moderate light and moderate levels of fertilizer, grow on the drier side, and provide adequate space and good air movement to produce the highest quality plants.



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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.