

Bracteantha

Sundaze®



NUTRITION

pH: 5.5 – 6.0

EC: (2:1 extraction method) <.6

Constant feeding at 100ppm nitrogen with a fertilizer selected for grower's water quality and soil mix, or feeding 150ppm – 200ppm nitrogen on an "as needed" basis is recommended.

TEMPERATURE

Rooting out: 65 – 72 F

Growing on: 65 – 72 F

Holding: 40 – 50 F

WATERING

Maintain dry to moderate soil moisture. Allow the soil to cycle from moist to dry. Avoid wilting, but do not grow moist or with long periods of wet soil, especially at cooler temperatures. Growing at lower moisture levels can be beneficial toward producing a more compact plant that blooms much earlier and requires little or no PGRs. This practice can also be used to help "hold" plants.

TIMING

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

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

8": 7 – 9 weeks with two to three Standard 84 cell plants per container.

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

PLANTING

Standard 84 liner cell 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 should not require pinching, especially for small containers, unless slightly tall at time of transplant.

LIGHT/LIGHTING

These plants should be grown in a high light area of the greenhouse for optimal flowering and plant development. All varieties flower well for spring finishing, and daylength extension lighting should not be required.

GROWTH REGULATORS

If required, a light spray of Sumagic® (uniconazole) at 5ppm – 10ppm is effective. PGR applications will not be required if other culture recommendations are followed. Cooler growing temperatures and especially drier growing practices can be very helpful at managing plant size.

PEST and DISEASE MANAGEMENT

If cultural recommendations are followed as listed in this guide, there should be few instances of disease issues. In moist, low light and higher humidity situations with poor air movement, Botrytis, Downy Mildew, and root rots can be a problem. Scout for Thrip, Spider Mites and Whitefly.

OUTDOOR GROWING SCHEDULE

Bracteantha can be grown outdoors in the third earliest spring conditions (light frost or late April/mid May in Michigan). These plants can be damaged from frost, cool and wet conditions. This recommendation is based on average spring weather and should be adjusted for unseasonably severe or unseasonably mild conditions.

OTHER TIPS

- Proper moisture and fertilizer management practices with high light conditions will produce a fuller, more compact plant that flowers much earlier and without disease issues. Flowering will be delayed if plants are kept moist constantly or fed too much. Fertilize at the lower recommended rates to avoid flower delay.
- As with all crops, it is beneficial to periodically inspect the overall health and development of a crop's root system. **Take note that healthy *Bracteantha* root systems are usually an amber color, not the usual white appearance of most crops.**



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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.