

Lantana

Bandana[®], Luscious[®]



NUTRITION

pH: 5.8 – 6.2

EC: (2:1 extraction method) .8 – 1.2

Constant feeding at 200ppm – 250ppm nitrogen with a fertilizer selected for grower's water quality and soil mix is recommended.

TEMPERATURE

Rooting out: 68 – 72 F

Growing on: 68 – 75 F

Holding: 60 – 65 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 too wet early in the production cycle can cause disease issues. Severe wilt conditions can damage root systems and delay both flowering and plant growth.

TIMING

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

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

8": 8 – 9 weeks with two 84 cell plants per container.

PLANTING

Standard 84 cell plants should be planted slightly deeper than the liner root ball 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. The liner cell plants arrive already pinched once. Additional 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.

The Luscious[®] blend types can receive a second pinch for both shaping and building the plant. Augeo[®] (Dikegulac-sodium) (branding agent) can also be considered for building a fuller plant. Additional pinching will add 2 weeks to crop times. Pinch as needed to shape the plant and avoid severe "cutbacks."

LIGHT/LIGHTING

Lantana should be grown in a high light area of the greenhouse for optimal plant development and flowering. Additional lighting is not required for flowering, but can be used when experiencing dark and cloudy conditions.

GROWTH REGULATORS

If required, a spray application of B-Nine[®] (daminozide) at 1,250ppm – 2,500ppm is effective. Also, a tank mix spray of B-Nine at 2,500ppm and Cycocel[®] (chlormequat) at 1,000 ppm can be applied. Sprays applied later in production or repeated numerous times can delay flowering slightly. Other materials such as Sumagic[®] (uniclazole), Bonzi[®] (paclobutrazol), Topflor[®] (flurprimidol) and Piccolo[®] (paclobutrazol) can be used as a spray or drench application at lower rates. These materials are best used in late spring and summer production when both light levels and temperatures are high.

Growing under high light conditions with adequate spacing and recommended temperatures will produce the highest quality plants and lower the need for PGR treatments. Florel[®] (ethephon) is not recommended for *Lantana* production. Flowering can be delayed severely and plant stress can possibly cause leaf drop.

There is a significant variance of vigor and habit within the offerings of Bandana[®] and Luscious[®] *Lantana*. To best produce quality crops of these offerings consider the following plant groupings.

- 1) Luscious Bananarama, Berry Blend™, Citrus Blend™, and Pinkberry Blend are the most vigorous. These varieties will more than likely need watered more than the other *Lantana*. They will also probably require a PGR treatment. A light pinch for shaping may also be beneficial.
- 2) Luscious Grape, Lemonade, Marmalade and Pina Colada are average vigor and may require a PGR treatment.
- 3) Bandana *Lantana* are more mounded and compact. They probably will not require a PGR treatment. Pink is the most vigorous of the Bandana types and should be considered for a PGR treatment.



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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.



PEST and DISEASE MANAGEMENT

There should be little instance of disease if basic cultural guidelines are followed. Botrytis and root rots can occur in poor growing conditions if plants are kept too wet. Control excessive humidity levels in the greenhouse and provide adequate air movement and space.

Whiteflies, Thrip, Aphids, and Spider Mites can be pests of concern. Scout crops on a regular basis and use control measures as needed.

OUTDOOR GROWING SCHEDULE

Lantana 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

High light, warm temperatures, adequate spacing and good nutrition are all crucial for producing quality *Lantana* crops. Plants should be scheduled and grown in time frames that supply these requirements. In certain areas of the country, it is best to schedule *Lantana* for later spring and summer sales.

Luscious Grape is a true “weeper.” It has a more open and airy habit. For larger containers, an additional pinch is helpful. Grape grows and flowers slower than the other *Lantana*. An additional one to two weeks’ crop time can be considered.

Growing under cooler greenhouse conditions, with lower light levels and excessive watering practices can greatly increase the finishing time of *Lantana*. Growing under such conditions can also lead to root rots.

Follow the vigor and plant grouping suggestions listed under the Growth Regulators section.

We recommend using the larger Supernova 28 liners when planting upright containers with more vigorous plants like Supertunias® or Superbells®.

