

# Heuchera, Heucherella, Tiarella

Dolce<sup>®</sup>, Primo<sup>™</sup>, Fun and Games<sup>®</sup>, 'Jade Peacock'



## ZONE HARDINESS 4 – 9

### NUTRITION

**pH:** 5.8 – 6.5

**EC:** (2:1 extraction method) 0.6 – 0.9

Moderate fertilization is adequate.

### TEMPERATURE for forcing from liners

**Forcing/Growing on:** 60 F Night – 65 F Day

**Holding:** 50 F Night – 55 F Day

Plants can be moved outside once the danger of frost has passed. An open environment will often strengthen the stems and produce a better finished product.

### WATERING

Keep the soil moderate during all stages of growing. These varieties don't do well in either waterlogged or dry conditions. During prolonged periods of dark, cold weather, growers should take extra care when watering late in the day. It's best to water as early in the day as possible to avoid disease.

### TIMING

**Supernova<sup>®</sup> 28 Liner to Trade Gallon/True Gallon:** 8 – 10 weeks with one plug per container. A typical planting date would be Week 10 for finishing in Week 18.

**50 Liner to Quart:** 8 – 10 weeks with one plug per container. A typical planting date would be Week 10 for finishing in Week 18. If planting Standard 50 liners into a gallon is desired, it's best to do a late summer or a fall planting, and plan on a bulk and vernalization schedule.

### VERNALIZATION

No vernalization should be needed as long as flowers are not desired. Most *Heuchera* and *Heucherella* are grown more for foliage interest. *Tiarella* has the added benefit of displaying a nice show of flowers in the spring if vernalized. For spring production, our *Tiarella* Supernova<sup>®</sup> 28 and 50 liners are vernalized and should give ample flowering. For even better flowering, plan on a typical perennial fall bulk and vernalization schedule.

### PLANTING

Plant in moist, well-drained medium. When planting, take care not to bury the crown of the plant too deeply. Plant the plug even with the surface of the growing medium.

When growing perennials, we recommend using an aged or composted pine bark based media as opposed to annual growing mixes that traditionally tend to be heavier in peat. Bark adds weight and stability to the growing mix and tends not to compress and shrink over time, thus adding the longevity that can be needed on long-term crops such as perennials.

### LIGHT/LIGHTING

No additional light is needed during forcing of *Heuchera/Heucherella/Tiarella*. Plants should be spaced such that they do not shade each other. Plants grown during the summer months should be shaded with at least 30% shade to bring out the best color, help with heat stress and prevent sunburn and discoloration. The light green and amber colored varieties are often the most sensitive to high light and will burn if grown in the full sun.

### TRIMMING/PINCHING

From liners, trimming can be done before planting. Only remove the top 1/3 of the leaves. Plants can be shaved or trimmed back and then allowed to re-flush if needed.

### GROWTH REGULATORS

A 5ppm Sumagic<sup>®</sup> (uniconazole) or a 30ppm Bonzi<sup>®</sup> (paclobutrazol) spray is efficient at controlling height where needed. Multiple applications may be needed at seven-day intervals on larger varieties or under warm greenhouse conditions. Natural air or wind movement and cooler temperatures are also effective at controlling height and producing a high quality crop.

### PEST and DISEASE MANAGEMENT

*Heuchera, Heucherella, & Tiarella* are relatively pest-free. However, if grown in a dark moist environment, care must be taken not to grow in such a way that promotes Botrytis, Powdery Mildew and Stem Rots. Again, natural air movement, good spacing and proper environment will go a long way in controlling many of the diseases that these varieties may develop. A broad spectrum fungicide drench is highly recommended after transplant. Banrot<sup>®</sup> (etrifiazole plus thiophanate-methyl) or Truban<sup>®</sup> (etrifiazole)/Subdue<sup>®</sup> (mefenoxam) are both good options. Insect pressure is often not a problem, but a good routine scouting program is recommended to ensure that Aphids, Whiteflies, and other greenhouse pest don't cause crop loss. Check roots because Fungus Gnats are a problem.



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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.