



Crop	Cosmos
Series	Ladybird
Botanical name	<i>Cosmos sulphureus</i>
Plant type	Annual
Seed type	Raw
Seed count	110 seeds / gr
Germination	20°C - 5-7 days light inhibited
Growing	16-21°C
Optimum pH	5.5-6.5

Plug Culture: 4 weeks (288 cell tray)

Stage 1 (days 1-8) Single sow seeds into a plug tray filled with well-drained media and cover lightly with coarse vermiculite. Maintain soil temperature at 20°C and sufficient moisture.

Stage 2 (days 9-14) After emergence reduce moisture levels and drop the temperature to 15-20°C. Place the plug trays in a well-ventilated greenhouse with high light levels. Cosmos Ladybird is a day length neutral plant. Therefore, no day length manipulation is required for production.

Stage 3 (days 15-21) Cosmos seedlings develop quickly and require little or no fertilizer. If the media contains fertilizers, no additional fertilizer is required. Otherwise, apply 50 ppm of nitrogen using a well-balanced calcium nitrate based feed.

Stage 4 (days 22-28) Seedlings are approaching transplant stage. To maintain active growth do not delay transplanting.

Transplanting to finish: 5-6 weeks

Media: Select a well-drained media with a pH between 5.5 and 6.5 and a low starter charge.

Fertilizer: Cosmos requires minimal fertilizer. Optimum EC level is 0.7 mS/cm (1:2 slurry). Fertilize weekly with 100 ppm nitrogen using a calcium nitrate based formulation.

Temperature: Cosmos Ladybird grows best between 16-21°C.

Plant growth regulators: If needed apply daminozide at 5,000 ppm 15-20 days after transplanting.

Crop schedule: In 10cm Pots, Ladybird will flower in 9-10 weeks from sowing.

All information given is intended for general guidance only and may have to be adjusted to meet individual needs. Cultural details are based on Asian conditions such as in Japan and Sakata cannot be held responsible for any crop damage related to the information given herein. Always follow manufacturer's label instructions. Testing a few plants prior to treating the entire crop is best.