

# Multicaule Upright Yellow

Crop	Multicaule
Series	Upright Yellow
Botanical name	<i>Coleostephus multicaulis</i>
Plant type	Annual
Seed type	Raw
Seed count	700 seeds / gr
Germination	15-20°C - 7 - 10 days light favored
Growing	10-20°C
Optimum pH	5.8-6.2

## Plug Culture: 3 weeks (288 cell tray)

**Stage 1** (days 1-7) Sow seed into a plug tray filled with well-drained media with fiber peat. Lightly cover the seed with either medium or coarse vermiculite. After sowing, water the plug tray well and maintain a soil temperature between 15-20°C. Avoid higher temperatures. A germination chamber with a fine mist system to maintain 100% relative humidity is ideal.

**Stage 2** (days 8-14) If using a germination chamber, be sure to remove plug trays when the seed begins to emerge. When cotyledons begins to appear in the tray, lightly fertilize with 75 ppm nitrogen from a well-balanced fertilizer. Maintain temperatures as cool as possible with good airflow. If sowing under warm temperatures, apply shade to cool the greenhouse to maintain optimum temperatures.

**Stage 3**(days 15-21) Reduce fertilizer as seedlings begin to fill trays. Fertilizer concentrations can be reduced to 150 ppm. Ideally, plug trays should be given higher light levels to control stretch. Avoid heat and water stress. Do not delay transplanting which delays flowering and reduces quality. The seedlings have 3-4 true leaves and are now ready for transplanting.

## Transplanting to finish: 5-15 weeks (10 cm pot)

**Pots:** Transplant seedlings into 10 cm pots filled with well-aerated soil media. Do not transplant the seedlings too deep to prevent stem rot.

**Temperature:** Optimum day temperature is 15-25°C with nights at 5-15°C. Avoid higher temperatures and high humidity. Multicaule grows best under moderate to cool temperatures above 5°C.

**Fertilizer:** Fertilize with 200 ppm nitrogen from a well-balanced fertilizer to ensure a healthy start. Apply once a week beginning 2 weeks after transplanting. Adjust as needed based on the growing conditions.

**Flower initiation:** Multicaule is a facultative long day plant, and the crop cycle will be longer growing under short day conditions (<12 hours). In addition to day length, a lower temperature, around 5-10°C, increases the number of flowers.

**Plant growth regulators:** In general, growth is best controlled with cool temperatures and restricting fertilizer. Plant growth regulators may be needed; especially under warmer temperature conditions.

**Pests:** Not highly attractive to pests but watch out for aphids which can cause damage to the plant.

**Diseases:** Excess moisture promotes disease and root rot.

*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 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.*