

Trachelium Passion In

Crop	Trachelium
Series	Passion In
Botanical name	<i>Trachelium caeruleum</i>
Plant type	Annual
Seed type	Pellet
Seed count	3,200 pellets / gr
Germination	20°C – 7-14 days light inhibited
Growing	18-24°C
Optimum pH	5.5-6.0

Plug Culture: 5 weeks (200 cell tray)

Stage 1 (days 1-10) Single sow seed into a plug cell filled with slightly fertilized peat with 20% perlite and a pH between 5.5 and 6.0. Optimum EC is lower than 0.6 mS/cm (1:2 slurry). Maintain a temperature of 21°C.

Trachelium requires light to germinate so apply a light cover of vermiculite.

Stage 2 (days 11-21) Reduce night temperature to 18°C and maintain the day temperature between 21-22°C. Trachelium Passion In requires long days after transplanting to initiate flowering. Providing long days in the seedling stage will not reduce the total crop time, but will enhance overall vegetative growth. Apply a light fertilizer at 50 ppm of nitrogen using a well-balanced calcium nitrate-based formulation.

Stage 3 (days 22-42) Maintain optimum temperatures. Increase fertilizer to 100 ppm of nitrogen alternating between 14-0-14 and 20-10-20. Target EC is 1.0 mS/cm (1:2 slurry).

Stage 4 (days 43-49) In preparation for transplant, reduce the night temperature to 13-16°C and the day temperature to 18°C. Cooler temperatures during stage 4 will tone the seedlings and prepare them for

transplanting. Do not delay transplanting.

Transplanting to finish: 5 weeks (48 cell tray)

Media: Use a slightly fertilized peat. Optimum pH is 5.5-6.0 with an EC of 1.5-1.8 mS/cm (1:2 slurry).

Transplanting: Plant one seedling per 10 cm pot and 3 seedlings per 15 cm pots, depending on the finished product. Umbels should be removed as soon as they have finished flowering.

Temperature: Grow at 18-24°C. To limit stretching, use a negative DIF.

DIF is the difference between day temperature and night temperature which can affect plant height. In the natural world, positive DIF (when daytime temperature is higher than nighttime temperature) is common, however if this difference is made smaller, or in some cases negative DIF (nighttime temperature is higher than daytime temperature), plant height can be suppressed.

Lighting: Trachelium is an obligate long day plant and require long days to initiate flowering. Therefore, apply lighting for 14 hours from sowing until visible bud. After flower initiation, the plants will flower regardless of day length.

Fertilizer: Trachelium needs a high fertilizer level. Begin fertilization as soon as the plants are established in pots to avoid light green foliage and chlorosis. Optimum EC level is 2.5-3.5 mS/cm (1:2 slurry). Applying 200-250 ppm of nitrogen alternating between 14-0-14 and 20-10-20 works well.

Plant growth regulators: Daminozide is effective at reducing plant height. Multiple applications will be necessary depending on the size of the finished plant.

Crop Schedule: Trachelium Passion In requires 20 weeks when sown in mid December for sales in early May. 16-18 weeks when sown in mid-March for sales in July-August.

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.