

## CULTURE ADVICE

### Torenia

<b>Description:</b>	Loving warm and half-shaded places, torenias have conquered their place in the bed and balcony assortment in the past decade, and deservedly so. But breeding means continuous change. While a compact growth is desirable for the cultivator, it is primarily the multitude of colours thought impossible for a long time that is appreciated by the consumer. Torenia can be excellently combined with other products provided the requirements in respect of the place (full sun to half-shade, homogeneous soil moisture, proper thermal conditions and moderate fertilization) are similar.
<b>Potting:</b>	11 - 12 cm pots; 40 - 30 plants/m <sup>2</sup> ; weeks 6 - 12 25 cm hanging basket (3 plants per basket); approx. 9 baskets/m <sup>2</sup> ; weeks 1 - 6
<b>Substrate:</b>	Substrate of type 2; pH approx. 5
<b>Fertilization:</b>	Moderately consumptive, application of 0,15 - 0.3 % complete fertilizer once or twice a week. Have an eye on iron deficiency symptoms during cultivation. Should they occur, they can easily be remedied with conventional iron chelate fertilizers.
<b>Temperature:</b>	Start at 18 - 20 °C, lower to 16 to 18 °C after 2 to 3 weeks. Temperatures below 14 °C will result in growth depression and a bluish discolouration of the leaves.
<b>Light:</b>	Full light, no shadow. Half-shades at the end consumer's are easily tolerated.
<b>Flowering:</b>	From mid-May depending on light conditions.
<b>Growth regulators:</b>	Our varieties are extremely compact. If required at all, apply Topflor (0.05 %) a single time as inhibitor.
<b>Pinching:</b>	1 to 2 weeks after potting or immediately in case of a suitable young plant size. Further pinching is not necessary. However, if branching is not satisfactory, some trimming or shaping is recommended to get a better plant build-up.
<b>Diseases / pest:</b>	Botrytis, lice, soft-bodied mites, thrips [are vectors for TSW (tomato spotted wilt) viruses → leads to heavy necrosis]; take hygienic measures!

Water balance is of importance; the plants must not stand too wet, danger of botrytis, damage to roots and irregular plant build-up are the consequences.

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