

CULTURE ADVICE

pac® Candy Flowers®

Pelargonium grandiflorum/Regals

Description:

The regal pelargoniums of the pac® Candy Flowers® series are characterized by rich flowering, early flowering and homogeneity of the stocks. Regal pelargoniums are high-quality products and should be sold at upmarket prices. Having been used as an indoor plant, pac® Candy Flowers® varieties may be planted out and will continue to flower throughout the summer.

Cultivation time:

A culture without cooling is possible with pac® Candy Flowers®. A short cooling period with 6–8°C gives better branched and more flowering plants. After the short rooting time of 10 days the first flowers should appear after approx. 10 weeks.

Potting:

- 12/13 cm pots until week 6.

Substrate:

- Clayey, well-drained and structurally stable P or T mixture, pH 5.5–6.0.

Fertilization:

- After potting: similar to zonal pelargoniums, with a slight N increase. No or little fertilization in the cooling phase, after cooling fertilize with:
 - N 180–230 mg/l
 - P 130–200 mg/l
 - K 250–350 mg/l
- Have an eye on iron deficiency symptoms during cultivation. Should they occur, they can easily be remedied with conventional iron chelate fertilizers.

Temperature:

After potting, the plants are recommended to be kept at a temperature of approx. 18 °C for 10 days. The plants will begin to take roots in this time. After about 10 days, spray them prophylactically against botrytis (Rovral, Teldor, Signum), then lower the temperature gradually to approx. 16 °C. pac® Candy Flowers® varieties induce also under normal culture condition. Another criterion is the desired selling time.

Extra light in connection with higher temperatures support an early flowering. Little light and high temperatures result in too big plants.

Flowering:

Without cooling period flowering depends on the beginning of cultivating and light conditions.

Growth regulators:

The application of Cycocel 720 (0,1–0,15 %) is dependent on the cultivation time and temperature control.

Pinching:

pac® Candy Flowers® should not be pinched. Only pac® Candy Flowers® Bicolor has to be pinched for better branching.

Diseases/pest:

Botrytis, white fly

Space requirement:

In the first place the pots set directly next to each other, then place them so that approx. 18 plants cover one square metre.

Raw ware:

The products have already passed the two first production phases, i.e. taking root and safe flower induction. Upon receipt of the plants (in 12 cm pots), you may place them directly at their final distance to each other, or plan to move them to their final places after approx. 4 weeks. Depending on the cultivation conditions, it takes approx. 8 weeks from the purchase of the raw ware to their flowering.

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.