

Celosia Dragon's Breath

Plant type:	Annual plant.
Uses:	Pot plant and patio containers
Flowering period:	Spring and Summer
Plant height:	60cm
Spread:	40cm
Ball 104 tray:	4 weeks crop in packs (green stage) 6 week crop in 10cm pots (green stage) 14 week crop in 3-5 litre pots (with flower)
Sowing:	<p>Sow seeds in a well-drained soil mix and cover lightly with medium vermiculite or media. Provide a soil temperature of 25°C. Germination takes place in 7 to 10 days. Since the root system is very delicate, so sowing directly into plug cells is recommended rather than sowing into open flat trays.</p> <p>After seedlings emerge, place flats in a well-ventilated area and reduce the temperature to 20-22°C during the day and 18-20°C at night. Fertilize plugs lightly with 50-100 ppm N. Over watering will promote disease; especially damping off and botrytis.</p>
Growing on:	
Temperature	18-25°C
pH	5.8 – 6.0
Feeding	<p>To promote bright red foliage avoid applying excess Nitrogen, which promotes green leaves; especially when planted in the landscape (treat them a bit 'mean').</p> <p>Apply 100 ppm N biweekly targeting the EC at 0.7 - 0.8</p> <p>It is important to supply sufficient amounts of Potassium in the fertilizer as a lack of Potassium causes weaker stems and abnormal shaped flowers. Therefore, a high potassium formulation, such as 15-10-30, works well and is highly recommended.</p>
Compost	Pot into a well aerated compost with a base feed.
Pot size	13 – 15cm pots

Ball Colegrave cultural information is issued as a guide to growers, based on our own trials experience. It is not intended as a blueprint for growing. Any chemicals referred to should be used only in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Culture Information

Growth regulation	Normally not needed but depending on pot size and required plant height, Celosia reacts very well on Daminozide. Do not pinch.
Advice	<p>Make sure special care is taken when removing plugs from the trays to avoid damaging the delicate roots. Avoid transplanting plugs too deep to prevent Rhizoctinia.</p> <p>Plants respond with a deepening red foliage colour with high UV light. Growing under glass or shading will reduce the distinct red coloured foliage. Plants will turn red in about 1 week of being given high UV.</p> <p>Plants generate vegetative growth in long days (>14 hrs) and plumage/flower during the summer going into shorter days (<14 hours). Complete production under long day conditions is advised for pot sizes > 17 cm.</p>
Common pests	Thrips and Aphids
Common diseases	Celosia is susceptible to Pythium, Downy mildew, botrytis, Rhizoctonia

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