

# Begonia

## *Begonia semperflorens* and *x hybrida*

<b>Plant type:</b>	Tender annual
<b>Uses:</b>	Bedding plants, containers and pot plant
<b>Plant height:</b>	Devil and Heaven: 15 - 20cm Whopper ( <i>Begonia x hybrida</i> ): 85cm, spread 55cm
<b>Sowing:</b>	December - March, for main May/June sales. April - May, for Summer pot bedding sales. 20 - 25°C. Do not cover with Vermiculite. Germination 2 - 3 weeks. Light is needed for germination.

### Approximate crop timing (mid season)

Sowing to transplanting	5 - 6 weeks
Sowing to flowering	12 - 15 weeks
Seedling to flowering	7 - 8 weeks
Ball 350 to flowering	5 weeks
Ball 230 to flowering	4 - 5 weeks
Ball 84 to flowering (Whopper)	10 - 11 weeks

### Growing on:

Temperature	Minimum of 20°C until plants are established, then lower to 16 - 18°C.
pH	5.5 - 6.0
Feeding	Use continuous low rate balanced feed.
Pack/Pot size	Pack 18 - 24's. Pot 9 - 10 cm (Devil/Heaven), 10.5 - 13cm (Whopper)
Planting out spacing	15 cm (Devil), 25-35cm (Whopper)
Advice	A pre sowing fungicide drench is advisable. Good light levels are essential for seedling development but avoid direct sunlight. Take care not to transplant shallow rooted seedlings too deeply. Water evenly until the flower buds are visible but once established allow to dry between watering
Common diseases	Damping off of seedlings (Pythium or Rhizoctonia). Botrytis – Grey Mould on mature plants in high humidity, poor ventilated conditions. Powdery Mildew.

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*

### **Tuberous Begonia**

<b>Plant type:</b>	Glasshouse perennial. Grown as a tender annual.
<b>Uses:</b>	Bedding, pots and packs, containers.
<b>Sowing:</b>	Early December for May sales. 23-25°C. Do not cover with Vermiculite. Germination 2 – 4 weeks.

#### **Approximate crop timing (mid season)**

Sowing to transplanting	7 weeks
Sowing to flowering	20-22 weeks
Seedling to flowering	13- 14 weeks
Ball 84 to flowering	8- 9 weeks
Ball 230 to flowering	11- 12 weeks

#### **Growing on:**

Temperature	18°C for transplanting seedlings. Once roots have developed, grow on at 15 - 18°C.
pH	5.5 - 6.5
Feeding	At about 6 weeks, the seedlings may need a weak nitrogen feed. 4- 5 weeks after potting on, start liquid feeding with 150 ppm nitrogen (20-10-20)
Growth regulation	Use only if necessary.
Pack/Pot size	10-12cm pots. Double six packs.
Planting out spacing	20cm
Advice	Seedlings require supplementary light to provide more than 12 hours daylight until mid-March. Ensure high humidity and shade from direct sunlight from the seedling stage until flower buds have initiated. Potting on should be done using a soft potting technique followed by careful watering.
Common diseases	Damping off of seedlings (Pythium or Rhizoctonia). Botrytis on mature plants in high humidity, poor ventilated conditions. Powdery Mildew
Common pests	Thrips, Mites, Whiteflies

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<b><i>Begonia Reference Table</i></b>	<b>Pots/Packs Size</b>	<b>Height</b>	<b>Spread</b>	<b>Uses</b>
Devil™	6 Pack/9-10.5cm	20cm	20cm	Bedding
Devils™ Delight	6 Pack/11cm	20cm	20cm	Bedding
Heaven™	6 Pack/11cm	20cm	20cm	Bedding
Organdy	6 Pack/9-10.5cm	15-20cm	15-20cm	Bedding
Baby Wing	11cm	35-45cm	30-35cm	Bedding
Mighty Mini	6 Pack/10.5-13cm	30-40cm	25-30cm	Bedding
Doublet®	13-17cm	30cm	30cm	Container
Gryphon	13-15cm	35-40cm	40-45cm	Container
Glowing Embers	13-17cm	30-40cm	30-40cm	Container
Peardrop, Buffey	13-17cm	30-35cm	30-35cm	Container
Flamboyant	13cm	20cm	15cm	Container
Solenia™	13-17cm	20-25cm	20-25cm	Container
Majestic	13-17cm (19cm)	35-45cm	35-45cm	Container
Ikon Bronze	11-12cm	35-45cm	35-45cm	Container/Bedding
Dragon Wing™	13-15cm	30-40cm	45cm	Container/Bedding
Whopper®	10.5-17cm	85cm	55cm	Container/Bedding
On Top	9-10.5/13-15cm	20-30cm	20-30cm	Container/Bedding
Fortune	10-13cm	30cm	20cm	Container/Basket/Bedding
Nonstop® / Nonstop® Mocca	10-13cm	20-30cm	20-30cm	Container/Basket/Bedding
Non-Stop® Joy	10-13cm	25-30cm	25-30cm	Container/Basket
Starshine	10-11cm/ 6 Pack	25cm	40-50cm	Container/Basket
Sweet Spice™	11-17cm	20-35cm	20-35cm	Container/Basket
Funky	10-11cm	20cm	30-45cm	Container/Basket
Santa Cruz™	10-11cm	30-40cm	30-60cm	Container/Basket
Truffle	10-13cm	30cm	30cm	Container/Basket
Bon Bon	11-13cm	25-30cm	35-40cm	Container/Basket
Lovebirds	11-13cm	30cm	30cm	Container/Basket
Northern Lights	11-17cm	30-45cm	30-45cm	Container/Basket
SuperCascade	9-10.5cm	20-30cm	60-90cm	Basket
Illumination®	9-10cm	20-25cm	40cm	Basket
Million Kisses®	11-17cm	30-35cm	50-80cm	Basket

**Pot size guide:**

13cm pot approximately = 1 litre  
 15cm pot approximately = 1.5 litre  
 17cm pot approximately = 2 litre  
 19cm pot approximately = 3 litre

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