

## *Culture Information*

# Begonia Dragon Wing<sup>TM</sup> and Baby Wing<sup>TM</sup>

<b>Plant type:</b>	Glasshouse Perennial Hanging baskets, large containers and garden beds
<b>Uses:</b>	
<b>Plant height:</b>	Dragon Wing <sup>TM</sup> : 30 - 40cm (45cm spread) Baby Wing <sup>TM</sup> : 35 - 45cm (30 - 35cm spread)
<b>Sowing:</b>	December to March, for main May/June sales. April - May, for Summer pot bedding sales. 18 – 21°C. Do not cover with Vermiculite. Germination 1 - 2 weeks.

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

Sowing to transplanting	7 - 8 weeks
Sowing to flowering	20 - 22 weeks

Ball 84 to finishing:	
14cm pot with 2-3 plants/pot	7- 9 weeks
20cm pot with 3-4 plants/pot	8 - 10 weeks
25cm pot or hanging basket with 4 plants	9 - 11 weeks

Note: Baby Wing<sup>TM</sup> is approximately 2 weeks earlier than Dragon Wing<sup>TM</sup>

### **Growing on:**

Temperature 18 – 21°C Day 16 – 18°C Night

pH 5.4 - 6.0

Feeding Begonias are heavy feeders. A high nitrogen feeding programme starting as soon as the plugs have rooted out should promote a good plant foliage structure. Keep an EC level of around 1.0. If the leaf edges turn reddish more water and feed is needed. After bud initiation a high potash 1:1:3 feed will help flowers to develop.

Watering Produce on the dry side to help prevent any fungal diseases.

Growth regulation Chemical growth regulators are not required in most situations. If a compact plant is required the variety responds to Daminozide.

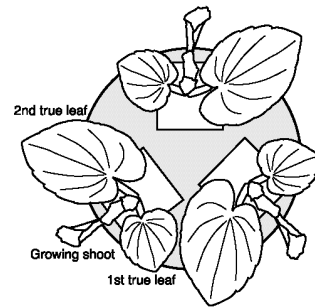
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Pot size	14cm - 25cm. Also good in hanging baskets.
Advice	It is important to position plugs properly when transplanting them into baskets and containers. The growing shoot must point outwards to the outside edge of the container to form an attractive display as the plant matures.

*Due to directional stem arching, it is very important to position **Dragon Wing**<sup>TM</sup> plugs properly when placing more than one plug into baskets and containers for finishing.*

Plugs must be placed with the growing shoot facing outward, toward the outside of the container (see drawing). This is the side of the plant the flower is on. The directional growth remains consistent as the plant matures ensuring flowers on the outside of the finished container.



These are light loving plants. Generally long days and high light levels will give good quality plant growth. High intensity direct sun however may cause scorching. Day length does not affect flowering time.

Common diseases	Damping off of seedlings (Pythium or Rhizoctonia). Botrytis - Grey Mould on mature plants in high humidity, poor ventilated conditions.
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