

Cosmos Sonata

Plant type:	Annual
Uses:	Pot, patio and garden plant
Plant height:	70cm
Sowing:	Sow January through to April for May to July flowering plant sales. 19-21°C. Cover with medium Vermiculite. Germination in 1 week.

Approximate crop timing (mid season)

Sowing to transplanting	3-4 weeks
Sowing to flowering	10-12 weeks. Cosmos flower faster under short days. Therefore day length extension with supplementary lighting in the plug stage to more than 12 hours day length may be used to prevent premature flowering.
Ball 104 to flowering	4-6 weeks

Growing on:

Temperature	Grow on at 21-26°C day temperature and 21-24°C night temperature
pH	5.5-6.0
Feeding	Use a regular background 1:1:1 NPK feed changing to a 1:1:2 high K feed at bud development.
Growth regulation	Grow without excessive watering to maintain a more compact plant. Otherwise, Sonata would benefit from growth regulation to keep a short flowering plant for pot sales.
Pot size	10-13cm up to 15cm
Planting out spacing	30-35cm.
Advice	Day length sensitive. Light is needed for a minimum of 11 hours to prevent premature budding.
Common pests	Aphids

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.