

Diascia Diamond

- Naturally compact, upright habit
- Super uniform habit and timing
- Ideal for high density production in 9 – 11cm pots, but can be grown up to 13cm (double pinch)
- Very free flowering for baskets, patio pots and landscapes

Media

- Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium
- Maintain a media pH of 5.6 to 6.0.

Temperature

- First period of about 3 weeks 14 to 16°C.
- After about 3 weeks, temperature may go down to about 1° – 11°C night, 16 – 24°C day.
- Excessively warm temperatures will cause stretch.
- Recommended night temperatures will create maximum branching and the best possible habit.

Light

- Low light levels promote stem stretch.
- Juliet Diascia is day length neutral and will flower equally well all year.

Watering

- Diascia can be susceptible to *Botrytis* – avoid high humidity and wet foliage.
- When plants are young, allow the media to dry slightly between watering.

Fertiliser

- Use constant feed with a balanced fertiliser at 175 – 225 ppm with additional iron as needed.
- A full complement of minor elements should be provided at each fertiliser application.
- Use clear water with every third watering if high soluble salt problems occur.

Pot size

9 – 13 cm and hanging baskets

Pinching

- Pinch plants back 7 to 10 days after transplanting to improve basal branching.
- For a larger basket or container, a second pinch can be applied, but will delay blooming by approximately 2 weeks.
- Plants will generally bloom 4 to 6 weeks after a pinch.

Controlling growth

- The best way to control the growth of Diascia is to grow the crop cool, provide bright light and apply moderate, regular water stress to promote flowering and reduce unwanted vegetative growth.
- To control growth and improve flowering and habit, growers can use 1 or more applications Daminozide.
- Use of PGR's can delay flowering by 1 to 2 weeks. Avoid spraying once flower buds appear.

Common problems

Insects: Aphids, Thrips, Whitefly, Sciarid Flies. .

Diseases: *Botrytis*, *Rhizoctonia*, *Pythium*

All Juliet Diascia cuttings are derived from culture and virus-indexed stock plants.

Crop time

5 – 7 weeks from a Ball 84 plug (pinched); or
7 – 8 weeks from a Ball 142 plug (un-pinched)

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Culture Information

Problems	Causes
Plant collapse	Wet media for an extended period (<i>Pythium</i>) Planting too deeply (<i>Rhizoctonia</i>)
Delayed flowering	Late application of growth regulators
Excessive vegetative growth	Higher than recommended air temperatures Over fertilisation under low light conditions Low light levels and over watering; wet media
Poor branching	Low fertilisation; lack of nitrogen
Stretched plants	Low light levels, excess water, higher than recommended air temperatures
Chlorosis	Iron deficiency High pH Nitrogen deficiency Over watering

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