

Begonia

Begonia semperflorens and x hybrida

Plant type:	Tender annual
Uses:	Bedding plants, containers and pot plant
Plant height:	Devil and Heaven: 15 - 20cm MegaWatt (Begonia x hybrida): height 50-70cm, spread 40-60cm
Sowing:	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 upto 2 Litre (MegaWatt)
Planting out spacing	15 cm (Devil), 25-35cm (MegaWatt)
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

Plant type:	Glasshouse perennial. Grown as a tender annual.
Uses:	Bedding, pots and packs, containers.
Sowing:	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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Culture Information

Quick Begonia Reference Table	Pots/Packs Size	Height	Uses
Mighty Mini Mixed	11cm	30-40cm	Patio Container/Bedding
Devil™	6 Pack/9-10.5cm	20cm	Bedding
Devils™ Delight	6 Pack/11cm	20cm	Bedding
Heaven™	6 Pack/11cm	20cm	Bedding
Baby Wing	11cm	20cm	Bedding
Organdy Mixed	6 Pack/11cm	20cm	Patio Container/Bedding
Ikon Bronze	12cm	30-40cm	Patio Container
Dragon Wing®	13-17cm	30-40cm	Patio Container/Bedding
MegaWatt	10.5-13cm/ 2Litre	50-70cm	Patio Container/Bedding
On Top	9-10.5cm	30-40cm	Patio Container/Bedding
Gryphon	13-17cm	30-40cm	Patio Container
Glowing Embers, Peardrop, Buffey	1 - 2 litre	30-40cm	Patio Container
Flamboyant	1 litre	30-40cm	Patio Container
Solenia™	1 - 2 litre	20-25cm	Patio Container
Majestic™	11-15cm/ 2 Litre	35-45cm	Patio Container
Fortune	9-13cm	20-30cm	Patio Container/Basket
Non-Stop®	9-13cm	20-30cm	Patio Container/Basket
Non-Stop® Mocca	9-13cm	30-40cm	Patio Container/Basket
Non-Stop® Joy	9-13cm	30-40cm	Patio Container/Basket
Starshine	11-15cm	40-50cm	Patio Container/Basket
Sweet Spice™	11-17cm	30-40cm	Patio Container/Basket
Funky	12cm/1-2Lt	20-30cm	Patio Container/Basket
Fortune	10-13cm	30-35cm	Patio Container/Bedding
Supercascade	9-10.5cm	20-30cm	Basket
Rivulet	12-13cm	35-45cm	Patio Container/Bedding
Illumination®	12cm	35-45cm	Basket
Million Kisses®	11-15cm	40-50cm	Basket
Truffle	10-13cm	35-40cm	Basket
Cherry Bon Bon	10-13cm	30-40cm	Basket

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