Dianthus Pink Kisses[®] and Oscar[®]

Week 10 - Standard cultivation Pink Kisses®

POTTING AND SPACING Pot size: 10.5cm 60 -70 pots/m²

COMPOST

Inclusion of 10% clay and 10% perlite in the substrate is beneficial

FEEDING

4 weeks after potting it is recommended to fertilise with 0.1-0.2% multi-nutrient fertilizer containing a high K

TEMPERATURE

1st –4th week: heating (average day temperature): 18°C day and night, ventilation temperature: 20 - 22°C From 5th week: heating (average night temperature): 14°C day and night, ventilation temperature: 16 –18 °C

When the shoots have reached a length of 4cm, a dawn temperature drop can be applied instead of PGR's. Lower the temperature to 4°C from 4am for 6 hours. A 'Dawn Drop' regime increases compact growth and helps to produce plenty of shoots.

WATER

Cultivate on the dry side and avoid allowing the plants to sit in water

LIGHT

These plants need plenty of light. Supplementary lighting to extend the day length for 2-3 weeks is recommended from the middle of February for early flowering. Use assimilation light (for photosynthesis) at 3–4000 lux.

PINCHING

After 10-14 days when the plants are tall enough, they can be pinched to 5 to 6 pairs of leaves

GROWTH REGULATORS

Some varieties do not need any treatment. If needed, give a light application when the shoots reach 2cm.

P&D CONTROL

Common Pests & Diseases to protect for: Rust, Alternaria, Thrip, Red Spider Mite and Aphid

FLOWERING TIME

Pot week 10 for flowering week 22, following the above programme

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

Week 38 to 42 - cultivation at low temperature – Pink Kisses® and Oscar®

POTTING AND SPACING Pot size: 10.5cm 60 –70 pots/m²

COMPOST

Inclusion of 10% clay and 10% perlite in the substrate is beneficial

FEEDING

4 weeks after potting it is recommended to fertilise with 0.1-0.2% multi-nutrient fertilizer containing a high K

TEMPERATURE

1st –4th week: heating 18° C, ventilation at $20 - 22^{\circ}$ C

From 5th week: heating 14°C, ventilation at 16 –18 °C

After the 8th week gradually lower the temperature to 4 - 6 °C (cooling phase) and hold this for the next 8 weeks. Always keep the ventilation difference always 2-4 °C higher than the heating temperature. After the 16th week raise the temperature back to 14°C, ventilation at 16–18 °C, until sale. At the beginning of the growing/flowering phase (after the cooling phase), a dawn temperature drop can be applied instead of PGR's. Lower the temperature to 4°C from 4am for 6 hours. A 'Dawn Drop' regime increases compact growth and helps to produce plenty of shoots.

WATER

Cultivate on the dry side and avoid allowing the plants to sit in water

LIGHT

These plants need plenty of light. Use supplementary lighting from the middle of February for early flowering.

PINCHING

After 2 weeks pinch the plants down to 3 to 5 pairs of leaves

GROWTH REGULATORS

Some varieties do not need any treatment. If needed, give a light application when the shoots reach 2cm.

P&D CONTROL

Common Pests & Diseases to protect for: Rust, Alternaria, Thrip, Red Spider Mite and Aphid

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Culture Information

FLOWERING TIME

Pot week 42 for flowering approx. week 14, follow the above programme.

Example low temp programme:

| Week | 42 | 44 | 47-52 | 1-8 | 9-15 | 15 |
|--------|------|-------|-------|-------|-----------|--------|
| Temp | 18°C | 18°C | 14°C | 4-6°C | 14°C | 14°C |
| Action | Pot | Pinch | | Cool | Warm with | Flower |
| | | | | | a 'Dawn | |
| | | | | | Drop' | |

A guide for potting to flowering growing under different regimes:

| | Oscar® Flower Week | | Pink Kisses® Flower Week | |
|----------|-----------------------|---------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Pot Week | | | | |
| | 4-9°C | No Heat | Indoor | Outdoor |
| 10 | 21/22 | 21/22 | 22 | |
| 15 | 25/26 | 25/26 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 37/38 | 37/38 | 35/36 | 35/36 |
| 38 | 13/14 | 15/16 | | |
| 42 | 18 | 18/19 | 17 | 21 |

For a week 42 potting, plants grown at 11° - 12°C will provide a flowering plant 2-3 weeks earlier.

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