

# Cultural recommendation

## Begonia

### Description

**Name:** Begonia -Cultivars

**Family:** Begoniaceae

**Series:** Mistral and further varieties



### Product use

**Use:** Bedding & balcony plant

**Exposure:** Full sun and part share

### Technical recommendations

**Potting and Spacing:** recommended pot size from 12 to 16 cm pot. Final density 25-12 plants/m<sup>2</sup>.

**Substrate:** The substrate should provide good drainage, structure, stability and permeability. pH is best between 5,7-6,2.

**Fertilizer:** Start fertilization 2 weeks after potting when roots become visible. Use commercial fertilizer blends that provide all the essential nutrients or a balanced nutrient solution at 1-1,2 gr/l. Ratio 2:1:2 (N:P:K with Ca, Mg and micronutrients ) until bud formation and ratio 2:1:4 (N:P:K) during the flowering period. Under high temperatures regimen (>25°C), keep the EC at lower levels to avoid soft plants and stretching. pH 5,7- 6,2. Avoid over-watering and over-feeding Begonias can cause serious plant health issues and delay flowering

**Temperature:** During the first 2-3 weeks keep night temperature at 18-20°C and day at 20-22°C to promote root development. Then lower to 15-16°C night temperature and 18-20°C day to grow on. When the crop is almost finish night temperatures can drop as low as 10-12°C (50-54°F) for “toning and hardening the plants

**Irrigation:** Maintain moderate soil moisture. Media should be allowed to moderately dry between irrigations to prevent diseases and promote stronger growth. However, avoid drying out and wilting. Also avoid excessive soil moisture levels with new transplanted plants. To prevent water spotting or burning on sunny days, water earlier in the morning or later in the afternoon.

**Light levels:** Keep light levels between 40-50 Klux. Use shade nets to control the temperature. Low light levels promote bigger leaves and soft growth. High light levels promote more compact habit and better flowering. Day length is critical to achieve the best quality, maintain a minimum of 14 h of light

**Pinching:** no pinching is required, for small pots. For pots >12 cm, facultative pinch 7-10 days after potting. Pinching too late or too hard leads to a bad branching.

**Growth Control:** Managing moisture, fertilizer, light and temperature is the best way to control the growth. Begonias are responsive to Daminozide (B-Nine/Dazinde/Alar) Rates and frequency depend on variety, pot size, growing conditions and season. Follow the registration uses of each chemical in each country

## Technical recommendations

### Pest and diseases:

Begonias are sensitive to some pest under greenhouse conditions. Aphids, Thrips, White fly and Spider mites are the most common pest of Begonias. Start with clean material a well disinfected facilities together with a proper pest management program using different control strategies: exclusion, monitoring, biological and chemical control, are the best tools to control these pests. Several bacterial, fungal pathogens and viruses can affect Begonias. Starting with a disease-free cutting and follow a proper sanitation program is the best guarantee to avoid production problems For the chemical control, follow the registration uses of each product in each region

## Crop schedule \* 12 cm pot

### Spring production

Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	P							F	F

P: Potting. Pi: Pinching. F: Finish plant

\*This is a reference time schedule that can vary depending on the variety, growing conditions and region. Schedule start from RC.

## Crop schedule \* 14 cm pot

### Spring production

Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	P	Pif								F	F	F(Pif)

P: Potting. Pif: Facultative Pinching. F: Finish plant

\*This is a reference time schedule that can vary depending on the variety, growing conditions and region. Schedule start from RC. Schedule start from RC

**NOTE:** Growers should use the information presented here as guidelines only. Selecta One recommends that growers conduct a trial of products under their own conditions. Crop times will vary depending on the climate, location, time of year, and greenhouse environmental conditions. It is the responsibility of the grower to read and follow all the current label directions relating to the products. Nothing herein shall be deemed a warranty or guaranty by Selecta One of any products listed herein