

CULTIVATION

Callistephus chinensis

Recommendation for all cut aster series

General Information

The satimex series has been developed to get a new cut aster type with unique flower types and surprising new colour shades. The blossoms are of medium to large size and at the most varieties densely packed with variously shaped flower petals.

The plants of almost all new series have pyramidal growth and strong stems.

The new series of satimex-asters produces sound plants, and most of the varieties have a high tolerance to Fusarium.

Tests by our growers and in several other trials inclusively FLEUROSELECT have demonstrated their outstanding suitability for cutting and high durability during transport and in the vase.

Series:

Lady Coral®; Sea Starlet; Rose of Shanghai; Harlekin; Juwel; Syringa; Balloon; Beautiful Day; Dragon; Tower; Valkyrie; Marlene; Classic

Sowing

Sowing rate 2,5-3 g for 1000 plants.

450 – 500 seeds per gram.

Please use a special sterilized cultivation substrat.

Germ temperature: 14-16 °C.

Germ time: 7 – 14 days.

Sowing under Middle European conditions for later open field production:

End of February/beginning of April in the greenhouse



Beautiful Day Mix

Further cultivation

Growing temperature for the young plants between 8 and 15 °C.

From beginning of May transplanting of the young plants directly into the open field. Young plants must be well hardened to the lower temperatures outside. For earlier planting and harvesting we recommend a precultivation (e.g. in 4 cm trays).

Plant distance: between rows 25 cm, within row 10-15 cm;

plant density: 26 – 32 plants per qm

A cultivation under glass or in the plastic tunnel for earlier flowering or prolongation of the production into the autumn is possible, but please consider the day length of minimum 14 hours and good ventilation.

Plant protection and fertilizing

Fusarium and Verticillium diseases are the main problem for the Aster production.

In spite of having some varieties in this series with a good or moderate resistance to these diseases, a long term rotation of minimum 6 years, early spraying of insecticides against aphids and of fungicides have always approved as the most effective means of prevention.

Thiram based seed treatment can be beneficial for plant health in the stage of sprouting and young plant development. On fields with high risk of Fusarium infection, we recommend additionally a treatment of young plants with Previcur N (Propamocarb): First spraying when the young plants have reached height of 1 cm; second spraying appr. 10 days after transplanting. Dose 15 ml Previcur N in 10 l water, is enough for one Ar.

Furthermore, an optimal plant density, moderate temperatures and good ventilation during the indoor stages of cultivation will provide for a good hardening and long keeping health of the plants.

Moderate nutrient demand. Please use standard fertilizer with low level of nitrogen.

Cutting

First flower harvest during the usual Middle European open field production is possible from middle of July, and the flowering continues till middle of September. Earlier or later harvests depending on sowing and transplanting time, pre-cultivation, temperatures and supply with light.

Please take into account the influence of the daylength to the size and shape of the flowers.

That´s why, before starting with a large scale production, we recommend to test our varieties under your special conditions at various periods of time.

Usually the growers will harvest firstly the central main flower, and later depending on maturity, the flowers from the branches.

Having optimum growing conditions, the large blossom sized series as Balloon or Juwel produce between 4 and 8 well shaped flowers from each plant, and the series with small to medium sized flowers as Beautiful Day and Harlekin achieve 10-20 flower stems with a total number of flowers up to 70.