GrowerFacts

PanAmerican Seed™

Celosia Bombay Series

(Celosia cristata)

Cut Flowers Culture (revised 01/23/21)

Programmable production, good for economical, high-density programs. High yields, strong stems and few off-shoot flowers. Flowers hold colour well and are well-suited to dried use.

General Information

Cultivation Type	Usage	Stem Length	Timing Group
Greenhouse, Tunnel	Secondary	28-40 in. (71-102 cm)	N/A

Germination

Seed Form	Recommended Plug Size	Seeds/Cell	Plug Crop Weeks	Days from 50% to maximum germination	Initial Media pH/EC (1:2)	Cover Seed
PEL	288	1	2-3	3-4	5.8-6.2 pH 0.75 mmhos/cm	Light cover

Plug Production

	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4
Moisture	Level 4	Level 4	Level 3-4	Level 3-4
Temperature	68-72°F (20-22°C)	68-72°F (20-22°C)	68-72°F (20-22°C)	68-72°F (20-22°C)
Light	Light	1,000-2,500 f.c. (10,800-26,900 Lux)	1,000-2,500 f.c. (10,800-26,900 Lux)	2,500-5,000 f.c. (26,900-53,800 Lux)
Fertilizer	Less than 100 ppm N (Less than 0.7 EC)	Less than 100 ppm N (Less than 0.7 EC)	100 to 175 ppm N (0.7 to 1.2 EC)	100 to 175 ppm N (0.7 to 1.2 EC)

Propagation Key Tips

Quantitative short-day plant. Flowers will initiate under short days. The optimum daylength for Bombay to reach the appropriate stem length lies between 12 to 13 hours. Celosia makes a taproot and is sensitive to root damage, which will result in early bud formation, deformed flowers and less uniformity. Therefore, plant before the plugs get rootbound. Maintain a constantly moist media, especially for the first 2 weeks after transplanting, to prevent premature flowering.

Growing on to Finish

Target Media pH/EC (1:2)	Fertilizer	Daylength
5.8-6.5 pH 0.75 mmhos/cm	100 to 175 ppm N (0.7 to 1.2 EC)	Facultative Short Day

Daylength Notation

The optimum daylength for Bombay to reach the maximum stem length lies between 12 to 13 hours, but the series will perform well under longer days.

Crop Scheduling

Cultivation Type	Support	Temperature	Density	Crop Time
Field grown	Required	18-27°C/65-80°F (day) 16-21°C/60-70°F (night)	6-8 plants/ft² (65-86 plants/m²)	6-10 weeks
Tunnel	Required	16-24°C/60-75°F (day) 16-18°C/60-65°F (night)	6-8 plants/ft² (65-86 plants/m²)	8-12 weeks
Greenhouse	Required	16-18°C/60-65°F (day) 16°C/60°F (night)	6-8 plants/ft² (65-86 plants/m²)	10-12 weeks

Fertilizer Notation

Celosia is susceptible to salt and high EC.

Chemical Sensitivity

PGRs are generally not recommended. If needed to control the excessive stem length, Celosia is responsive to B-Nine/Alar (daminozide) 2,000 ppm (2.5 g/l 85% formulation or 3.0 g/l of 64% formulation) when excessive stem length is expected. Starting at 12 to 20 in./30 to 50 cm height, depending on weather. At final desired lengths, a spray with B-Nine/Alar (daminozide) 3,250 ppm (3.8 g/l 85% formulation or 5.0 g/l of 64% formulation) could be given to stop the plant growing further.

Common Problems

Celosia cristata is very sensitive to Thrips. Zero tolerance is strongly recommended. Start spray program as soon as possible after planting. Other insects: Aphids, Spider Mites, Leaf Miners Diseases: Powdery Mildew, Fusarium, Botrytis; it's recommended to treat preventively against Botrytis one week after planting.

Finishing Key Tips

Celosia makes a taproot and is sensitive to root damage, which will result in early bud formation, deformed flowers and less uniformity. Therefore, plant before the plugs get rootbound. Maintain a constantly moist media, especially for the first 2 weeks after transplanting, to prevent premature flowering. Before flower development, temperatures 65-75°F (day) 63-65°F (night) are recommended. Better flower quality is achieved if greenhouse temperatures are lowered as flowers develop. Do not pinch or cut back Bombay Celosia.

Harvest

Harvest stems as crest is almost completely full.

Post Harvest

Strip 50-75% foliage. Use distilled water; no need for hydration or holding solutions. Avoid cold storage if possible.

Vase Life

7-14 days

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PanAmerican Seed Co.
622 Town Road,West Chicago, Illinois, USA, 60185-2698
630 231-1400 Fax: 630 231-3609 PanAmSeed.com