

New Sherbet Bon Bon Begonia (Begonia boliviensis)

Double blooms in brilliant yellow make an eye-catching display.

Stunning at retail, this trailing begonia will draw early, high-impact sales. Sherbet Bon Bon can be grown alongside its vigorous counterpart, Million Kisses[®]. Both are available as rooted or unrooted cuttings exclusively through Ball.





BEGONIA 💢 🍑 Begonia boliviensis

New Sherbet Bon Bon

Height: 10 to 12 in. (25 to 30 cm)

Spread: 20 to 24 in. (50 to 60 cm)

Trailing Length: 20 in. (50 cm)

In areas with low humidity, partial to full shade is recommended.

Culture

GROWING ON TO FINISH

Media

- A pH of 5.8 to 6.2 is optimum.
- Sherbet Bon Bon begonia prefers a well-drained soil.

Temperature

Night: 55 to 60°F (13 to 16°C) **Day:** 65 to 75°F (18 to 24°C)

• Crop can be finished cooler in final weeks of production; maintain temps above 55°F (13°C).

Light

- Sherbet Bon Bon begonia should be grown under moderate light levels; 3,000 to 4,000 f.c. (30,000 to 40,000 Lux) is the ideal range.
- Plants may scorch under high light and high temperatures. Longer days promote flowering.
- Schedule crops to finish under long days (more than 13 hours).
- Crops produced under short days (less than 12 hours) will result in small plants and poor flowering.

Watering

- The media should be allowed to dry between waterings.
- Water stress can be used for growth control, however, periods of sustained wilting should be avoided.
- Excess water will result in unwanted stretch and disease.

Fertilizer

- Use a constant liquid feed program of 200 to 300 ppm.
- Regular leaching with clear water will help to reduce buildup of excess salts in media.

Pinching

- Sherbet Bon Bon begonia should be pinched 7 to 14 days after transplant to encourage basal branching
- Additional pinching can be done as needed.
- A 4-in. (10-cm) crop can be produced without a pinch in finished production, provided it received a pinch in propagation or at transplant.

Controlling Growth

- Maintain recommended temperatures and light levels to avoid stretch.
- Excessive moisture in media will encourage unwanted stretch.
- Water management is an excellent tool in producing high-quality Sherbet Bon Bon begonia.
- Chemical plant growth regulators are generally not needed. Sherbet Bon Bon begonia is responsive to B-Nine and B-Nine/Cycocel tank mix for finished production in smaller containers. Begin applications 7 days after transplant.
- These recommendations for plant growth regulators should be used only as general guidelines. Growers must trial all chemicals under their particular conditions.

Common Problems

Insects: Whitefly, spider mites

All Sherbet Bon Bon begonia cuttings are derived from culture and virus-indexed stock.

Problems	Causes Stem canker (Botrytis) Plants grown in saturated media for extended periods of time (Pythium)		
Plant collapse			
Poor branching and thin plants	Low fertilization during early stages of growth; low light; production under short days (less than 12 hours)		

Sherbet Bon Bon Begonia Crop Schedule & Uses				
	4-In. (10-Cm) Pot 1 ppp*	6 to 8-In. (15 to 20-Cm) Pots 1 to 2 ppp*	10 to 12-In. (25 to 30-Cm) Pots 2 to 3 ppp*	
Rooted cuttings	5-7 weeks	6-8 weeks	8-11 weeks	

*ppp: Plants per pot or basket

Note: Growers should use the information presented here as a starting point. Crop times will vary depending on the climate, location, time of year and greenhouse environmental conditions. Chemical and PGR recommendations are only guidelines. It is the responsibility of the applicator to read and follow all the current label directions for the specific chemical being used in accordance with all regulations.

