

Coleus Marquee

(*Solenostemon scutellarioides*)

A Ball FloraPlant Product

Propagation

- Choose a well-drained medium with an EC of 0.75 to 0.80 mmhos and a pH of 5.8 to 6.2.
- Open boxes immediately upon arrival. Stick cuttings within 12 to 24 hours of arrival. Cuttings can be stored overnight, if necessary, at 45 to 50°F (7 to 10°C).
- Soil temperature should be maintained at 68 to 73°F (20 to 23°C) until roots are visible.
- Avoid over-application of mist in propagation.
- Once roots are visible, the media should be kept moderately wet and never saturated.
- Begin fertilization with 75 to 100 ppm N when roots become visible.
- As the rooted cuttings develop appropriate moisture stress, high light and moderate air temperatures should eliminate the need for chemical plant growth regulators (PGRs).
- Marquee Coleus do not require pinching during propagation.
- Coleus rooted cuttings should be ready for transplanting 21 to 24 days after sticking.

Growing On to Finish

Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium with a pH of 5.8 to 6.2.

Temperature

- **Nights:** 59 to 70°F (15 to 21°C)
- **Days:** 74 to 85°F (23 to 29°C)
- Cool night temperatures will extend crop time dramatically.

Light

- Keep light intensities at 4,000 to 10,000 f.c. (40,000 to 100,000 Lux).
- Extremely low light levels result in poor branching, stem stretch and poor foliage color.

Watering

Allow the media to dry slightly between watering but any wilt should be avoided.

Fertilizer

- Use constant feed with a balanced fertilizer at 150 to 200 ppm.
- Leach regularly to avoid the buildup of soluble

salts.

Pinching

Pinching is generally not required. Pinch plants 7 to 14 days after transplanting, as needed, to improve basal branching. A 4-in. (10-cm) crop can be produced with no pinch.

Controlling Growth

- Use high light and recommended temperatures to control growth and produce the best possible habit.
- Marquee Coleus are extremely free-branching.
- B-Nine 2,500 applied 1 to 2 times, if necessary.
- 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: Aphids, whitefly.

Diseases: Rhizoctonia, Pythium.

All Marquee Coleus cuttings are derived from culture and virus-indexed stock from the **Ball Certified Plants®** program.

Problems: Plant collapse

Causes: Wet media for an extended period (Pythium)

Problems: Early flowering

Causes: Extreme environmental stress (water, light, temperature, low fertility)

Problems: Excessive vegetative growth

Causes: High ammonia concentration in the soil; Over-fertilization under low light conditions; Low light and overwatering; wet media

Problems: Poor branching

Causes: Low fertilization; lack of nitrogen

Problems: Stretched plants

Causes: Low light

Problems: Chlorosis

Causes: Nitrogen deficiency; Low night temperatures

Marquee Collection Coleus Crop Schedule & Uses
(Crop Schedule In Weeks)

Unrooted cuttings

4-in. (10-cm) Pot 1 PP*: 8-10

6-in. (15-cm) Pot 1 to 2 PP*: 9-11

10-in. (25-cm) Pot 3 to 4 PP*: 11-14

Rooted cuttings

4-in. (10-cm) Pot 1 PP*: 5-7

6-in. (15-cm) Pot 1 to 2 PP*: 6-8

10-in. (25-cm) Pot 3 to 4 PP*: 8-11

*PP: 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.

