

TECH TIP: ARE MY MUMS ON TRACK?

Many areas in the Northeast and Midwest have a forecast of low night temps for the upcoming weeks.

- **This is a critical time** for garden mums, low temperature is a stronger inducer for flower induction than photoperiod
- Night temps <70F = increased chance for flowering & photoperiod induced flowering
- Night temps < 60 F = Flower induction
 - 1 night @ 5 hours <70 = minimum effect
 - 4 nights @ 6 hours <70 = potential induction
 - 6 nights @ 4 hours <70 = strong induction

IS YOUR MUM CROP UP TO SIZE?

Use graphical tracking to make sure your crop is where it needs to be – find a downloadable Excel tool at <https://www.ballseed.com/GardenMums/>

Now is the time to act! NOT when your plants are cracking color and about to flower. At that point little can be done.



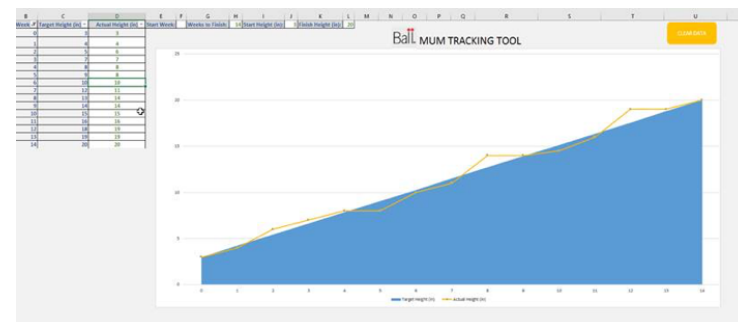
USING THE GROWTH TRACKING TOOL

If the plants are TOO BIG (above the line):

- If using liquid feed, switch to low phosphorous and nitrate-based feeds, 13-2-13, 14-4-14 so plants are not stretching due to fertilizer.
- Reduce the rate or frequency of feed.
- If more control is needed, apply PGRs – Bonzi or paclobutrazols can be applied as a spray or drench.
- Do not apply B9 late in the crop. It can delay flowering.

If the plants are TOO SMALL (below the line):

- Check plant health: Are there any root issues? Is the foliage yellow?
- Check your soil EC – are you feeding correctly? Too low? Too high?
- Use 20-10-20 to push crop – increasing phosphorous & ammonium nitrogen will give you more stretch.
- If even more push is needed, use a 1x application of 9-45-15 (very high phosphorous).
- Experienced users can apply Fascination. It is best to use multiple low applications



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