

## TECH TIP: RED KALE NOT SIZING UP

**Question:** I am having trouble getting red kale to size up compared to the rose and white. All plants were treated the same way and no PGRs were applied. The seed was all shipped fresh this year. What is the cause of this?

**Answer:** This is likely due to the higher anthocyanin content in red and the night temperatures. There is some explanation in the culture sheet found here: <https://sakataornamentals.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2019/11/Ornamental-Kale-Nagoya-0420-SAKATA.pdf>.

Reds are generally a bit behind compared to other colors of seed raised crops and that is likely exacerbated with cool night temperatures common in your area. Southern growers tend not to see this much variation due to warmer temperatures.

A suggestion would be to grow the red in a tunnel or hoop house that could be closed to maintain night temperatures. *However, this might require PGR on some varieties/seasons.*

