

ColorGrass® Isolepis Live Wire

(*Isolepis cernua*)

Germination

Germination takes 6 days.

Soil temperature: 64 to 68°F (18 to 20°C). Live Wire Isolepis germinates most uniformly around 65°F (18°C).

Light: Required for germination and early seedling growth.

Moisture: Keep soil wet (level 4) during Stage 1.

Humidity: Maintain 100% relative humidity (RH) until radicles emerge.

Plug Production

Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium with a pH of 5.5 to 6.1 and a medium initial nutrient charge (EC less than 0.75 mmhos/cm with a 1:2 extraction).

Sowing

Each multi-seed pellet will generally yield 3 to 4 plants. Plug tray sizes from 406 to 288 cells are recommended. If desired, 128 and 72 cells are also suitable. Live Wire Isolepis can be sown without cover.

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Humidity: Maintain 100% relative humidity (RH) until radicles emerge.

Stage 2

Soil temperature: 64 to 70°F (18 to 21°C)

Light: Up to 2,500 f.c. (26,900 Lux)

Moisture: Reduce soil moisture slightly (level 3) to allow root to penetrate into the media.

Fertilizer: Apply fertilizer at rate 1 (< 100 ppm N/ < 0.7 mS/cm EC) from nitrate form fertilizers with low phosphorous.

Stage 3

Soil temperature: 64 to 68°F (18 to 20°C)

Light: Up to 2,500 f.c. (26,900 Lux)

Moisture: Allow media further dry to the surface become light brown (level 2) before watering. Do not allow the seedlings to wilt.

Fertilizer: Increase fertilizer to rate 2 (100 to 175 ppm N / 0.7-1.2 mS/cm EC).

Growth Regulators: Not needed.

Stage 4

Soil temperature: 64 to 66°F (18 to 19°C)

Light: Up to 5,000 f.c. (53,800 Lux) if temperature can be controlled.

Moisture: Same as stage 3.

Fertilizer: Same as stage 3.

NOTE: Live Wire Isolepis plugs can be held for about 2 weeks without affecting the subsequent growth after transplanting provided they are adequately watered.

Growing On to Finish

Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium with a pH of 5.5 to 6.2 and a medium initial nutrient charge.

Temperature

Nights: 64 to 66°F (18 to 19°C)

Days: 66 to 74°F (19 to 23°C)

Plants can be grown under temperatures as low as 50°F (10°C) but the crop time will increase significantly.

Light

3,000 to 5,000 f.c. (30,000 to 54,000 Lux). Live Wire Isolepis can tolerate light shade.

Irrigation

Live Wire Isolepis likes moist to wet medium. The plants can even grow in standing water. Do not allow plants to dry out, as this will cause the foliage to become yellow.

Fertilizer

Apply fertilizer 175-225ppm N (EC 1.2-1.5 mS/cm) once a week is adequate, but the plants can tolerate higher rates or more frequent fertilization. The heavier fertilization is, the faster the plants will grow.

Growth Regulators

Growth regulators are not needed. Live Wire Isoplepis is naturally compact.

Photoperiod

Live Wire is a long day plant. It will flower when daylength is longer than 12 hours.

Pinching

Pinching is not needed.

Crop Scheduling**Sow to transplant (406 to 288-cell plug tray):**

5 weeks. Add one more week for 128 and 72-cell plug tray but reduce post-transplant crop time by one week.

Transplant to saleable size:

Container Size: 306 premium pack

Plants per Pot/Basket: 1

Weeks from Transplant: 6-7

Total Weeks: 11-12

Container Size: 2.5-in. (6-cm) pot

Plants per Pot/Basket: 1

Weeks from Transplant: 4-5

Total Weeks: 9-10

Container Size: 4 to 4.5-in. (10 to 11-cm) pot

Plants per Pot/Basket: 1

Weeks from Transplant: 6-7

Total Weeks: 11-12

Container Size: 6 to 6.5-in. (15 to 16-cm) pot

Plants per Pot/Basket: 3

Weeks from Transplant: 6-7

Total Weeks: 11-12

Container Size: Gallon

Plants per Pot/Basket: 3

Weeks from Transplant: 6-7

Total Weeks: 11-12

Common Problems

No major insect or disease issues.

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.

