

## Coleus Mint Mocha

(*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 will reduce the need for chemical plant growth regulators (PGRs).
- A B-Nine application at 1,500 to 2,500 ppm applied as a spray 10 to 12 days after sticking is effective in reducing stem elongation.
- Electric Lime, Henna, Honey Crisp, Indian Summer, Mint Mocha, Redhead and, Trusty Rusty, and Vino Coleus do not require pinching during propagation. However, to improve branching and habit for 6-in. (15-cm) and larger containers, plants can be pinched 5 to 7 days before transplanting.
- 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 waterings but any wilt should be avoided.

### Fertilizer

- Use constant feed with a balanced fertilizer at 175 to 225 ppm.
- Leach regularly to avoid the buildup of soluble salts.

### Pinching

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.
- For large containers (1 gallon and larger), Coleus will generally not require any PGR applications during production.
- For smaller pots (4 to 6 in./10 to 15 cm), PGRs are recommended.
- A high-volume Bonzi drench at 0.5 to 2.0 ppm applied when the crop is two-thirds of finish size is effective in reducing stem elongation late in the production cycle.
- A Cycocel (1,000 to 1,500 ppm) and B-Nine (2,500 to 3,500 ppm) tank mix applied 1 to 3 times, or Sumagic (5 to 10 ppm) applied as a spray, are both effective.
- Henna, Honey Crisp, Indian Summer, Mint Mocha, Redhead and, Trusty Rusty and Vinaire are vigorous plants similar to other sun coleus varieties (Florida Sun Jade, Saturn, etc.). Electric Lime is slightly more compact.
- 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 Electric Lime, Henna, Honey Crisp, Indian Summer, Mint Mocha, Redhead and, Trusty Rusty, and Vinaire Coleus cuttings are derived from culture and virus-indexed stock from the **Ball Certified Plants®** program.

**Problem:** Plant collapse

**Causes:** Wet media for an extended period (Pythium)

**Problem:** Excessive vegetative growth

**Causes:** High ammonia concentration in the soil;  
Over-fertilization under low light conditions; Low light  
and over-watering; Wet media

**Problem:** Poor branching

**Causes:** Low fertilization; Lack of nitrogen; Late pinch

**Problem:** Stretched plants

**Causes:** Low light; Late transplanting

**Problem:** Chlorosis

**Causes:** Nitrogen deficiency; Low night temperatures

**Electric Lime, Henna, Honey Crisp, Indian Summer,  
Mint Mocha, Redhead &, Trusty Rusty & Vino  
Coleus Crop Schedule & Uses**

**Unrooted Cuttings:**

4-In. (10-Cm) Pot 1 PP\*: 8-10 weeks

6-In. (15-Cm) Pot 1 to 2 PP\*: 9-11 weeks

10-In. (25-Cm) Pot 3 to 4 PP\*: 11-14 weeks

**Rooted Cuttings:**

4-In. (10-Cm) Pot 1 PP\*: 5-7 weeks

6-In. (15-Cm) Pot 1 to 2 PP\*: 6-8 weeks

10-In. (25-Cm) Pot 3 to 4 PP\*: 8-11 weeks

\*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.

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