

Fuchsia Bellinto

(*Fuchsia cultivars*)

Propagation

- Choose a well-drained medium with an EC of 0.75 to 0.80 mmhos and a pH of 5.0 to 5.5.
- 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 74°F (20 to 23°C) until roots are visible.
- The use of a rooting hormone will encourage early rooting.
- Begin fertilization with 75 to 100 ppm N when roots become visible. Increase to 150 to 200 ppm N as roots develop.
- Rooting in short days will encourage vegetative growth. Encouraging vegetative growth early in production will result in a better-branched, higher quality finished product.
- Once roots are visible, the media should be kept moderately wet and never saturated. Fuchsia Bellinto can be susceptible to root rot; proper water management will reduce this risk.
- A pinch while under short days will help to encourage vegetative branching.
- A pinch in propagation should eliminate the need for a Florel application in propagation; however, Florel can be applied late in the liner stage to slow down flowering.
- Fuchsia Bellinto should be ready to transplant 3 to 4 weeks after sticking.

Growing On to Finish

Media

A pH of 5.0 to 5.5 is optimum.

Fuchsia Bellinto prefers a well-drained soil.

Temperature

- **Night:** 55 to 65°F (13 to 18°C)
- **Day:** 68 to 75°F (20 to 24°C)
- Do not expose plants to temperatures below 45°F (7°C) or above 86°F (30°C).

Light

- Fuchsia Bellinto should be grown under moderate light levels; 4,000 to 7,000 f.c. (40,000 to 70,000 Lux) is the ideal range.
- Watering
- The medium should be allowed to dry between

watering. However, periods of sustained wilting should be avoided.

- Fuchsia Bellinto can be susceptible to root rot; proper water management will reduce this risk.

Fertilizer

- Fuchsia Bellinto have a moderate to high feed requirement. A constant feed program of 200 to 300 ppm N is recommended.
- Regular leaching with clear water will help to reduce buildup of excess salts in media.
- Be sure to monitor pH levels during production.

Pinching

- Fuchsia Bellinto can be pinched 7 to 14 days after transplant to encourage strong lateral branching. An additional pinch may be desired, especially when doing Hanging Basket production.
- At least one pinch should be done to the plants either during propagation or shortly after transplanting for best branching.

Controlling Growth

- Maintain recommended temperatures and light levels to avoid stretch.
- Excessive moisture will encourage unwanted stretch.
- B-Nine Spray at 2,000 ppm or a Bonzi drench of 0.5 to 1 ppm can also be used to control plant height. Florel can be used early in the growth cycle to slow flowering if desired.
- 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: White Fly, Thrips, Spider Mites

Disease: Botrytis, Fusarium, Pythium, Phytophthora, Rhizoctonia, Rust

All Fuchsia Bellinto cuttings are derived from culture and virus indexed stock from the **Ball Certified Plants® Program**.

Problem: Plant collapse

Causes: Stem canker (Botrytis); Plants grown in saturated media for extended periods of time (Pythium)

Problem: Excessive vegetative growth and lack of flowers

Causes: Excessive ammonia nitrogen in fertilizer; Low light and over-watering; saturated media; Not achieving required 25 days of long-day exposure for flower initiation.

Problem: Poor branching and thin plants

Causes: Low fertilization during early stages of growth; low light

Problem: Flowering before plant structure is developed.

Causes: Exposure to long days too early in production.

Fuchsia Bellinto Crop Schedule & Uses (Crop Schedule in Weeks)

Unrooted cuttings

4-in. (10-cm) Pot 1 PPP*: 10-13 weeks

6 to 8-in. (15 to 20-cm) Pots 1 to 2 PPP*: 13-15 weeks

10 to 12-in. (25 to 30-cm) Pots 3 to 4 PPP*: 15-17 weeks

Rooted cuttings

4-in. (10-cm) Pot 1 PPP*: 6-9 weeks

6 to 8-in. (15 to 20-cm) Pots 1 to 2 PPP*: 10-12 weeks

10 to 12-in. (25 to 30-cm) Pots 3 to 4 PPP*: 12-14 weeks

*PPP: 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. Visit **www.selectanorthamerica.com** today to check out the complete line of terrific products from Selecta.

