

Heuchera Carnival

(*Heuchera x hybrida*)

Propagation

- Choose a well-drained medium with an EC of 0.8 to 1.0 mmhos and a pH of 5.8 to 6.2.
- Stick cuttings the day of arrival if possible. Otherwise, store at 45°F (7°C) for not more than 18 hours before sticking.
- Soil temperature should be maintained at 70 to 72°F (21 to 24°C) until roots are visible.
- A basal dip rooting hormone of 500 to 1,000 ppm can be applied to promote early, uniform rooting.
- Mist at moderate to high levels for the first 24 to 48 hours to rehydrate cuttings. Reduce mist to a low level by Day 2. Avoid over-application of mist after this period.
- Begin fertilization with 50 to 75 ppm N after 14 days.
- During root development, maintain moderate moisture levels in the soil. Avoid saturation of media.
- Pinching is not necessary.
- Rooted cuttings should be ready for transplanting 35 to 42 days after sticking.
- NOTE: Carnival Series Heuchera are available as Tissue Culture-raised liners in addition to unrooted cuttings. TC liners finish more uniformly than liners from URC.

Growing On to Finish

Media

- Use media with good aeration and drainage.
- Prefers a medium that will dry regularly between watering.
- A pH of 5.8 to 6.2 is optimum.

Temperature

- **Nights:** 50 to 55°F (10 to 13°C)
- **Days:** 60 to 65°F (16 to 18°C)
- Temperatures below those recommended will slow plant growth significantly.
- An average daily temperature of 60°F (16°C) is optimal, but plants will tolerate a wide range of warm temperatures.
- Heuchera require vernalization to flower. However, flowers are considered to be of secondary interest on the Carnival series.

Light

- Will perform best under moderate to high light levels of 1,500 to 2,500 f.c. (15,000 to 25,000 Lux).
- Carnival Heuchera will tolerate higher light levels

under cool conditions.

- Finish Heuchera under shade cloth with cool night temperatures for strongest foliage color.

Watering

- Heuchera have a fine root system. The media should be allowed to dry slightly between watering and never saturated. However, plants should not be allowed to wilt at any time.
- Leach regularly to avoid the buildup of high soluble salt levels.

Fertilizer

Use a balanced fertilizer at a rate of 100 to 125 ppm. Periodic use of a calcium-based fertilizer should help optimize the nutrient levels.

Pinching

Generally not required.

Controlling Growth

Under most conditions, will not require growth regulator treatments.

Common Problems

Insects: Generally insect-free

Diseases: Heuchera are relatively disease-free. Pythium and Rhizoctonia can result from over watering.

Problems: Plant collapse

Causes: Plants grown in saturated media for extended periods of time (Pythium); Rooted cuttings transplanted too deeply

Problems: Excessive vegetative growth

Causes: Excessive ammonium-based fertilizer; Over-fertilization under low light conditions; Over-watering; saturated media

Problems: Yellowing of young foliage

Causes: Saturated media

Problems: Foliage necrosis

Causes: High soluble salts in media; Excessive water stress; Pesticide application

Crop Schedule & Uses

(Crop Schedule in Weeks. Spring planting is recommended.)

1 PPP* 1-qt. (10-cm) pot

Unrooted cutting 13 - 15 weeks

Rooted cutting 8 - 10 weeks

1 PPP* 1-gal. (15-cm) pot

Unrooted cutting 15 - 17 weeks

Rooted cutting 10 - 12 weeks

3 PPP* 2 to 3-gal. (25 to 30-cm) pot

Unrooted cutting 19 - 22 weeks

Rooted cutting 12 - 14 weeks

*PPP: Plants per pot

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.

