

## Veronica Moody Blues™

(*Veronica hybrida*)

### 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.
- Stick cuttings the day of arrival if possible. Otherwise, store at 45°F 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 rooting hormone basal dip containing 500 ppm IBA should be applied to promote early, uniform rooting.
- Mist at moderate to high levels for the first 24 hours to rehydrate cuttings. Use a low mist setting after this period.
- Begin fertilization with 50 to 75 ppm N when roots become visible.
- During root development maintain moderate moisture levels in the soil. Avoid saturation of media.
- Recommend one pinch in liner stage.
- Rooted cuttings should be ready for transplanting 35 to 42 days after sticking.

### Growing On to Finish

#### Media

- Use media with good aeration and drainage.
- Prefers a medium that is high in organic matter.
- A pH of 5.8 to 6.2 is optimum.

#### Temperature

- Nights: 55 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.
- Vernalization not required.

#### Light

- Will perform best under moderate to high light levels of 5,000 to 8,000 f.c. (53,000 to 86,000 Lux).
- Finish Veronica outside under full sun conditions for best quality.

#### Watering

- 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 125 to 150 ppm.

#### Pinching

Benefits from a trim after transplant. Plants can be cut back to encourage re-blooming and extend market window. However, this series can be programmed to have constant color, eliminating the need to cut back if a sales window is missed.

#### Controlling Growth

- Under most conditions, will not require growth regulator treatments.
- Sumagic is not recommended.

#### Common Problems

**Insects:** Aphids, whitefly

**Diseases:** Have seen minimal occurrence of Downy Mildew when peak conditions are present.

#### Key Tips

Can be programmed to finish at key retail dates throughout the season.

**Problem:** Yellowing of young foliage

**Causes:** Saturated media

**Problem:** 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** 10 - 14 weeks

**Rooted cutting** 8 - 10 weeks

**1 PPP\* 1-gal. (15-cm) Pots**

**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 or basket

