

## Leycesteria Jealousy

(*Leycesteria formosa*)

### Germination

#### Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium with a pH of 5.8 to 6.2 and a medium initial nutrient charge (EC 0.75 mmhos/cm with a 1:2 extraction).

#### Sowing

Plug tray size 288 or larger. Cover lightly with vermiculite.

Germination takes 9 to 12 days.

**Soil temperature:** 65 to 70°F (18 to 21°C)

**Light:** 10 f.c. (100 Lux) or higher. Light is required for germination.

**Moisture:** Keep soil moist but not saturated (level 4) during Stage 1 for optimal germination.

**Humidity:** Maintain 95% relative humidity (RH) until radicle emergence.

### Plug Production

#### Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium with a pH of 5.8 to 6.2 and a medium initial nutrient charge (EC 0.75 mmhos/cm with a 1:2 extraction).

#### Sowing

Plug tray size 288 or larger. Cover lightly with vermiculite.

**Stage 1** - Germination takes 9 to 12 days.

**Soil temperature:** 65 to 70°F (18 to 21°C)

**Light:** 10 f.c. (100 Lux) or higher. Light is required for germination.

**Moisture:** Keep soil moist but not saturated (level 4) during Stage 1 for optimal germination.

**Humidity:** Maintain 95% relative humidity (RH) until radicle emergence.

### Stage 2

**Soil temperature:** 68 to 73°F (20 to 23°C)

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

**Moisture:** Start to slightly reduce soil moisture (level 4) to allow the roots to penetrate into the media.

**Fertilizer:** Apply fertilizer at rate 1 (less than 100 ppm N/less than 0.7 mS/cm EC)

### Stage 3

**Soil temperature:** 65 to 70°F (18 to 21°C)

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

**Moisture:** Allow the media to further dry until the surface becomes light brown (level 2) before watering. Keep the moisture level at wet-dry cycle (moisture level 4 to 2). Do not allow the seedlings to wilt, as they do not recover very well.

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

**Growth Regulators:** None

### Stage 4

**Soil temperature:** 65 to 67°F (18 to 19°C)

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

**Moisture:** Same as Stage 3.

**Fertilizer:** Same as Stage 3.

## Growing On to Finish

#### Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium with a pH of 5.6 to 6.2 and a medium initial nutrient charge.

#### Temperature

**Nights:** 65 to 67°F (18 to 19°C)

**Days:** 68 to 76°F (20 to 24°C)

Jealousy Leycesteria can tolerate cool temperatures. However, foliage will turn purplish brown color when night temperatures are below 53°F (12°C).

### Light

Keep light levels as high as possible while maintaining recommended temperatures.

### Irrigation

Maintain uniform media moisture. Plants can tolerate saturated media moisture.

### Fertilizer

Feed plants weekly at rate 3 (175 to 225 ppm N/1.2 to 1.5 mS/cm) by alternating ammonium and nitrate-form fertilizers. Excessive nitrate-form fertilizer may cause the top foliage to turn bronze color.

### Growth Regulators

Plant growth regulators are not recommended for height control as PGR applications will make the foliage more dark greenish or will make the crop less uniform.

### Pinching

The best way to control plant growth with good uniform habit is to pinch or trim the plants down to 3 to 4 leaves in main stem. The pinch or trimming can be done at two weeks after transplanting or before transplanting but it ends up slightly more uniform when pinch is done at two weeks after transplanting. When pinching manually, make sure to pinch all the main stems of each plant growing out of the multi-seeded pellets, so that the crop will be uniform at finish.

### Crop Scheduling

**Sow to transplant (288 plug tray):** 7 to 8 weeks

Add one more week for larger plug/liner tray

### Transplant from 288-tray to saleable finished container:

Container Size: 306 pack

Plants Per Pot: 1

Weeks From Transplant: 6-7

Total Weeks: 13-15

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

Plants Per Pot: 1

Weeks From Transplant: 6-7

Total Weeks: 13-15

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

Plants Per Pot: 3

Weeks From Transplant: 7-8

Total Weeks: 14-16

Container Size: Gallon

Plants Per Pot: 3



Weeks From Transplant: 7-8

Total Weeks: 14-16

**NOTE:** When transplanted from a 128-tray or 72-liner, finish crop time can be reduced by 1 week.

### Common Problems

**Insects:** Watch for spider mite

**Diseases:** No serious problems

### Garden and Landscape Information

**Location:** Full sun to partial sun. Jealousy Leycesteria performs well in wetlands. It will also tolerate dry conditions once established.

**Height:** 36 to 60 in. (91 to 152 cm)

**Spread:** 26 to 38 in. (66 to 97 cm)

**Spacing:** 24 to 36 in. (61 to 91 cm)

**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.