

Campanula Iridescent Bells

(*Campanula x hybrida*)

Propagation

- Choose a well-drained medium with an EC of 0.75 to 0.8 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 rooting hormone basal dip containing 500-1,000 ppm IBA should be applied to promote early, uniform rooting.
- Average days with mist: 15 to 18.
- 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.
- Rooted cuttings should be ready for transplant 6 weeks after sticking.
- Do not stick cuttings too deeply. Use a 500-1,000 ppm basal IBA dip for best rooting results. Do not over-mist. Although roots may take 15 to 18 days to form, mist should be used only to reduce excess wilting. Over-misting will delay root development.

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:** 50 to 55°F (10 to 13°C)
- **Days:** 55 to 60°F (13 to 15°C)
- Temperatures below those recommended will slow plant growth significantly.
- An average daily temperature of 55 to 60°F (13 to 16°C) is optimal, but plants will tolerate a wide range of temperatures.
- Vernalization of 6 weeks with night temperatures between 45 and 50°F (7 to 10°C) is recommended. This can be accomplished by Fall planting and cold growing or Spring planting a vernalized liner.

Light

Will perform best under moderate to high light levels of 3,000 to 4,000 f.c. (30,000 to 40,000 Lux).

Long days required.

Watering

- The media should be allowed to dry moderately 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 150 to 175 ppm. Periodic use of a calcium-based fertilizer should help optimize the nutrient levels. Discontinue fertilizing during the dark Winter months to avoid excessive EC buildup.

Pinching

Not required.

Controlling Growth

- Will not require growth regulator treatments.
- Responsive to B-Nine/CCC at 1,500/800 ppm if needed to control petiole stretch.
- 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, Spider Mites

Diseases: Fungal leaf spots, Rhizoctonia crown rot

Key Tips

Finish under cool night temperatures and high light for greatest foliage and flower intensity and best plant habit.

Problem: Crown rot

Causes: Planting too deeply, overwatering

Problem: Excessive vegetative growth and lack of flowers

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

Problem: Yellowing of young foliage

Causes: Saturated media

Problem: Foliage necrosis

Causes: High soluble salts in media; Excessive water stress

Crop Schedule & Uses

(Crop Schedule in Weeks – Summer/Fall planting is recommended.)

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

Unrooted cutting Not recommended

Rooted cutting Not recommended

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

Unrooted cutting Plant by Week 35 in the North, Week 40 in the South

Rooted cutting Stick by Week 30 in the North, Week 35 in the South

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

Unrooted cutting Plant by Week 32 in the North, Week 37 in the South

Rooted cutting Stick by Week 28 in the North, Week 32 in the South

*PPP: Plants per pot

