GrowerFacts

Lonicera Sweet Tea Honeysuckle

(*Lonicera periclymenum*)

Propagation

Not Applicable.

Growing On to Finish

Media
Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless media with a pH of 5.5 to 6.2.

Temperature
Winter: USDA Zones 4 - 9. Preferable to keep roots from prolonged freezing temperatures during production.

Summer: Production performance in Southeastern United States has exhibited heat and humidity performance. Trials in the Midwest have shown good resistance to mildew.

Light
Full sun production for optimum growth rate and compact habit.

Irrigation
Uniform media water levels for optimum growth. Do not permit full drying of media. Best to have foliage dry before nightfall to reduce potential disease.

Fertilizer
Similar fertility regime as with other broad-leafed deciduous shrubs in a nursery.

Pinching
Habit is low, multi-branching with significant branching increased over typical species. No staking required to produce saleable #1 nursery container. With pinching after first flush, no staking is needed.

Spacing
Can be grown pot tight at initial potting. Spacing needed for Fall crop.

Crop Scheduling
Liner to #1 nursery container
Fall/Winter potting: #1 and #2 nursery container will finish in 3 to 5 months (August/September potting saleable in March to May)

Spring: # 1 nursery container will finish in 3 to 4 months (March/April potting salable in June to August)

Container Size
#1 and #2 pot: 1 liner per pot

 # 3 pot: 3 liners per pot; or shift #1 container

Diseases
Occasional Mildew should be monitored and treated. Trials in the Southeast, Texas, California, Midwest, Pacific North West, and Eastern US have exhibited only occasional Powdery Mildew. Good air circulation, monitoring crop and quality growers can produce a great product.

Pests
Whitefly, spider mites

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.