

Centaurea cyanus - Corn Flower

Boy Blue

Not Suitable for Potted Colour

Cool season annual often used as a cut flower because of the distinctive blue colour. Successful late spring early summer flowers for planters or garden borders. Excellent vase life.



1421 blue

Choice

Not Suitable for Potted Colour

Beautiful blend of white, blue, pink and carmine double flowers on long stems. Height 90cm.



1422 mix

Centaurea cyanus Cultural Notes

Common Name:

Cornflower.

Family Name:

Asteraceae.

Genus:

Centaurea.

Species:

Cyanus.

Transplant Date:

April - August.

Flower Date:

June - October.

Use:

Pots, gardens and borders.

Container:

10cm and 12.5cm pots.

Temperature:

Night - 7 to 18 °C (45 to 65 °F)

Day - 13 to 24 °C (55 to 75 °F)

Light:

Maintain light levels as high as possible while maintaining moderate temperatures. Crop time decreases as daylength and light levels increase. Plant habit is most compact and uniform with high light levels and long days.

Media:

Use a well-drained, disease-free soilless medium with a medium to low initial nutrient charge and a pH from 5.5 to 6.3.

Fertilization:

Fertilize every other irrigation with a fertilizer with primarily nitrate-form nitrogen such as 15-0-15. Supplement fertilization with additional magnesium. Maintain medium electrical conductivity around 1.5 mmhos/cm (using 1:2 extraction).

Crop Scheduling:

Transplant as soon as seedlings are received. Do not allow plugs to become root bound. Transplant to flower 8 to 10 weeks at 15 °C. Use one plant per cell in packs up to 24 cells per tray. Use 3 plants per pot in 10cm pots.

Plug Size	288
Plug Age (weeks)	5-6
Finish Pot Size	pack 10cm
Finish time (weeks)	5-7 8+

transplant to sale)

Growth Regulators:

Minimize the need for plant growth regulators by growing under long days and avoiding high temperatures and excessive ammonium levels. *Centaurea* is responsive to daminozide (Alar), but this material may not be labelled for this use. Always follow label recommendations. Test Alar as a foliar spray at 2500 to 5000 ppm. Apply plant growth regulator when the plants have rooted out after transplanting. The amount of plant growth regulation needed increases at higher temperatures or low light. Plant growth regulator application may increase time to flower by ten days to two weeks.

Common Problems:**Insects:**

Aphids, spider mites, thrips, whiteflies.

Diseases:

Pythium root rot: soft, brown, mushy roots. Drench with Subdue, Banrot, Truban or similar compound.

Rhizoctonia crown rot base of plant turns tan or brown and leaves begin to wilt. Roots may be healthy white. Drench with Banrot, Chipco 26019, Terraclor or similar material. Remove infected plants.

Botrytis blight: tan or brown leaf or flower spots followed by grey, fuzzy spores. Maintain good air circulation and reduced humidity during production. Remove dead or injured leaves or flowers. Apply preventative sprays such as Chipco 26019, Omalin or Daconil; or smoke with Exotherm Termil.

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