



Hana Series

Callistephus chinensis

www.highsun.com.au Ph: 1300 137 584 Fax: 1800 644 015 Available as Plugs & Seed

- The small, cute, multi flowers are making their debut on the world stage.
- Hana responds to light very sensitively and with good control of temperature and lighting, year-round cropping is possible.
- Single 2.5-3.5cm extra small flowers with bright yellow centres.
- A good vase life and idealistic features for arrangements and bouquets meet the demand for super quality cut flowers.



Blue Tipped



Blue



Deep Blue



Deep Rose



Pink



Rose



Rose Tipped



Scarlet



White

Disclaimer: "Significant variations in seed, variety and crop performance, in results and in crop outcomes may occur depending upon geographic location, climate, soil type, soil conditions, cultural and management practices and other growth and development factors. Any cultural and descriptive information or other advice, recommendation, information, assistance or service provided by Highsun Express is intended as a general guide only and should not be relied upon and is provided without liability or responsibility (including for negligence) on the part of Highsun Express. It is recommended that in all cases a small scale trial production is undertaken in order to test local conditions and circumstances that may affect the crop."



Aster Hana Series

Cultural Notes

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Common Name:

Annual Aster, Japanese Aster

Family Name:

Asteraceae.

Genus:

Callistephus.

Species:

chinensis.

Promotional Name:

Hana Series.

Country of Origin:

Japan.

Plant Type:

Annual.

Special Features:

Flowers can be as small as 2.5cm in diameter, but are abundantly produced.

Growth Habit:

Hana series has an excellent branching habit.

Field Production:

Transplant into the field in mid November through to December. Warm areas would benefit from an earlier transplant with flowering in November, and cooler areas transplant in October for harvest in December through to January. Bud formation is initiated under longday lengths (16 hours +) and with temperatures over 15-21 °C. Final development of flowers will come under shorter day lengths.

Glasshouse Production:

In Glasshouse, plants may be grown year round, with up to three crops being achieved each year. Timing for summer flowering is similar to field growing, with transplanting in September and harvest during the warmer months. For winter and autumn harvests, lighting is important and must be maintained with the use of incandescent lights during the darker months. Plants require at least four hours each evening after sunset from March to November to maintain a day length of 16 hours. Transplanting in Autumn will crop in 4 to 5 months. Temperatures should not go below a minimum of 10 °C. Changes from this daily routine may result in premature flowering and abnormalities. The warmer temperatures as Spring arrives, with the corresponding reduction in the use of lights, will finish the crop appropriately.

Height with Flowers:

65-75cm tall.

Soil Conditions:

Soils must be free of pathogens. Prepare a field/area, which should be sterilised and rich with plenty of organic matter, and the field/area where Asters were not previously grown. Sakata's Asters are bred to be tolerant against Stem Rot (Fusarium) and can be grown in the same field every other year. Never grow in the same bed two years in succession.

Breeder:

Miyoshi.

Transplant Date:

Field: September - November. **Field cool areas:** October - December

Glasshouse: Spring, Autumn, Winter. (Plants can be grown year round).

Flower Date:

Field: December - March. **Field cool areas:** December - February.

Glasshouse: Spring transplant = Nov - Jan. Autumn transplant = July

- October. Winter transplant = October - November.

Crop Time:

The Hana series is approximately two weeks later to flower than the Matsumoto series and blooms in about 10 weeks from transplant. Grown outdoors the main harvest period is from December to March. For production outside this period, artificial lights are required to ensure sufficient stem length and flower quality.

Height/Support:

65-75cm tall. It is advisable to use at least one tier of support. A major characteristic of the Hana series is that it displays a strong basal branching habit. There is no requirement to pinch but pinching can be used to achieve a target of approx. 60 stems/m². A pinch should be applied about 5cm above the plant base about 40 days after planting. Leave 3-7 side shoots after pinching and disbud others.

Spacing:

Normal culture (no pinching) - Transplant 20 x 20cm outdoors and 12-15 x 12-15cm indoors.

Forcing culture - Transplant 12-15 x 12-15cm if not pinching 20 x 20cm if pinching.

Harvest:

Harvest terminal when outside ray florets begin to open. For dried flowers harvest when flowers are fully open. With pinching the lighting will need to be extended. Thus harvest will delay 1-2 weeks

Use:

With their cute extra small multi-flowers and bright yellow centres, the Hana series is well suited to arrangements. Flowers can be as small as 2.5cm in diameter but are abundantly produced on plant stems stretching out from the base.

Pest/Diseases:

Common diseases of Asters include Petal blight (botrytis); damping off (Pythium), Rhizoctonia, Aster wilt (Fusarium, Verticillium). Use crop rotation or fumigation). Caterpillars, Leafhoppers can infect the crop with virus like organisms. Never grow in same bed 2 years in succession to prevent Fusarium.

Environmental Factors:

Natural flowering usually takes place after the longest day. Asters need long days for stem elongation and bud initiation. In principal minimum day length is 15 hours and temperature is 21 °C. If temperatures are higher and light intensity stronger, shorter day lengths are possible (eg Queensland and WA). After buds are initiated, flowering is hastened by short days. To grow out of season, expose seedlings to long days for about 70 days or until flower buds are visible. Start treatment one week after transplant. After flower buds appear, lighting can be stopped. Flowers are ready for harvest about 3 weeks later.

General Comments.

Suggested pH 5.5-6.5. Water in well immediately after transplanting. Asters are frost tender so outdoor transplants must take place after all danger of frost has passed. During production use a complete N:P:K fertiliser with the majority of nitrogen in the nitrate form and containing extra micronutrients. Nitrogen is important in the early stages of growth but reduce after buds become visible. At the bud stage increase Potassium for better stem strength, flower quality and flower colour Asters are sensitive to high soluble salts.

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