

### Trachelium coeruleum

## Hamer

### Indent Line

**Dafne** - compact, tight flower umbels and dark green leaves, 70-90cm.

**Eris** - unique colour, 70-90cm. **Helios** - not so sensitive to browning of the flowers. The flower umbels are remarkably compact and tight, 70-90cm.

**Pallas** - improvement of blue umbrella, earlier to flower and more uniform umbels, 70-90cm. **Pandora** - pandora has dark stems. Pandora is the darkest coloured selection in this assortment. 70-90cm. 1,700 Seeds/gram



3099 **dafne** - soft pink



3100 **eris**



3101 **helios** - pure white



3102 **pallas** - blue



3103 **pandora**

*For Cool Growing Areas - timings may change for warmer locations*

Series Colour	Colour Description	Summer			Autumn			Winter			Spring		
		Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
<b>Hamer Series</b>													
Dafne	deep pink	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
Eris	silvery blue	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
Helios	real white	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
Pallas	light blue	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
Pandora	purple/blue	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T

### Sow Date:

See Highsun Express Plug Catalogue for Contract Order lead times.

### Transplant Date:

Year round according to variety planted. As this is a relatively new crop, trialing should be undertaken to ascertain the best timing of varieties for your conditions.

### Flower Date:

**Summer Planting:** 10 weeks from transplant

**Spring / Autumn Plantings:** 12-14 weeks from transplant

**Winter Plantings:** 16 weeks from transplant

# Trachelium Cut Flower Varieties 2009

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## Cultural Notes

### Common Name:

Umbrella Flower.

### Family Name:

Campanulaceae.

### Genus:

Trachelium.

### Species:

caeruleum.

### Country of Origin:

Mediterranean.

### Plant Type:

Half-hardy perennial.

### Special Features:

It is economical to produce because it prefers a cool growing environment. Flowers last 10-14 days.

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### Transplant Date:

Year round according to variety planted.

### Flower Date:

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**Spring/Autumn Plantings:** 12-14 weeks from transplanting.

**Winter Plantings:** 16 weeks from transplanting.

### Harvest:

Flowers can be harvested as soon as 20-30 florets in the heads are opened, since they will wilt easily put them in water in a cool store-room as soon as possible. Treat with STS.

### Use:

Cut flower used as a filler in bouquets.

### Growing On:

### Growth Habit:

Trachelium is a long-day flowering crop.

### Foliage:

The foliage is light and elegant.

### Irrigation:

Use overhead watering until plugs "take" then drip. Once a week is better than smaller frequent waterings. Pre-irrigate before transplanting. Reduce soil moisture as umbels begin to develop at 35-40cm high. This prevents side shoots from over growing the primary flower.

### Ground Preparation:

It is advisable to disinfect the soil at least once per year, prior to transplanting.

### Optimum Temperature:

During active growing stage a day temperature of 20-25 °C (70-80 °F) and a night temperature of 18 °C (66 °F) is required. Temperatures above 32 °C can induce premature flowering in young plants.

### Fertilisation:

Begin fertilisation three weeks after transplant. Adjust fertiliser levels to preplant soil fertility test results. Alternate fertiliser application of potassium nitrate with calcium nitrate, increasing from 150 ppm N to 200 ppm over a six week period. Discontinue nitrogen-containing fertilisers when flower buds are initiated. Ten weeks after transplant irrigate with clear water only.

### Lighting:

Trachelium is a long day plant, early transplants require a night interruption from 11pm – 3am, but the crop will not react very uniformly. A daylength of 16 hours is optimal. Summer Crops transplanted from November – January require short day treatment or blackout. To produce long stems on late November and January plantings, provide 12 hours of darkness for two to three weeks, beginning the second week after plantings. During cloudy, cool weather, bud initiation is slowed and the need to apply short days is less.

### Location:

**Greenhouse:** grow in containers.

**Field:** grow in ground beds.

### Shade:

Apply shade or whitewash houses late spring and summer.

### Support:

Two layers of mesh are required for support.

### Spacing between Plants:

**Pinched:** Space plants to be pinched at 32 plants per m<sup>2</sup>. Pinching results in a higher production per m<sup>2</sup>, but delays flowering.

**Unpinched:** Space plants to be unpinched at 64 plants per m<sup>2</sup>.

Slightly lesser production is compensated by a better quality and an earlier production.

### Pests/Diseases:

If soil is not disinfected **etc** Damping off may be prevented by applying Zineb or Captan; during cultivation application of Thiram (300 r/100 litre) prevents Rhizoctonia. If Rhizoctonia treat locally with 100 g quintozene.

Aphids and spider mites may attack the crop, treatment with Primor and Pentac are possible.

### References:

Armitage, A.M. 1995. Specialty Cut Flowers. p 136-7

Growertalks, December 1994, p18

Growertalks, September 1997, p57

Kieft Trachelium Cultural Notes

PanAmerican Trachelium Culture Notes

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."



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