

Torenia Little Kiss

Crop	Torenia
Series	Little Kiss
Botanical name	<i>Torenia fournieri</i>
Plant type	Annual
Seed type	Pellet
Seed count	800 pellets / gr
Germination	20-25 °C - 7 days light favored
Growing	18-20 °C
Optimum pH	5.8-6.2

Plug Culture: 6 weeks (288 cell tray)

Stage 1 (days 1-6) Sow seed into a plug tray filled with well-drained media high in organic matter. Lightly cover the seed with medium vermiculite and maintain sufficient moisture and a soil temperature of 24°C.

Stage 2 (days 7-13) After the seedlings emerge reduce the temperature to 18-20°C and provide good air movement. After cotyledons appear, apply a light feed of 50-75 ppm of nitrogen using a well-balanced calcium nitrate based formulation to establish strong and healthy seedlings.

Stage 3 (days 14-28) Water and fertilize as needed to maintain healthy seedlings allowing the media to dry slightly in between. An application of 100 ppm of nitrogen is recommended at least once a week. Watering early in the morning allows the foliage to dry thoroughly and prevents potential disease problems. If toning is needed, spray with daminozide or ancymidol are effective.

Stage 4 (days 29-35) Torenia develop rapidly and are often ready to transplant after four weeks under mid to late spring conditions. One can drop the air

temperature to 16°C to hold plug trays for a few days.

Transplant to finish: 7-9 weeks

Transplanting: Plant one seedling for 10 cm pots and 3 seedlings for 12 cm pots

Temperature: Optimum temperature is 18-20°C during the day and 16-18°C at night. Night temperatures below 16°C may cause leaf curl and leaf discoloration ranging from yellow to red.

Fertilizer: Fertilize at 150-200 ppm of nitrogen using a well-balanced calcium nitrate based fertilizer helps to produce plants of high quality. Calcium/magnesium formulations work well and supply valuable magnesium.

Plant growth regulators: Being naturally compact, Little Kiss should not require plant growth regulators. However, paclobutrazol and ancymidol are effective if needed. Given the naturally branching habit, pinching is not needed.

Pests: aphids and thrips.

Disease: botrytis, powdery mildew, pythium and root rot. Good sanitation and growing culture will aid in keeping the plants healthy.

Crop Schedule:

10 cm pot: 8-9 weeks after transplanting. Torenia Little Kiss has a mounding habit that ultimately grows 20x20 cm. tall and wide. Continuous flowering under full sun or partial shade.

All information given is intended for general guidance only and may have to be adjusted to meet individual needs. Cultural details are based on Asian conditions such as in Japan and Sakata cannot be held responsible for any crop damage related to the information given herein. Always follow

manufacturer's label instructions. Testing a few plants prior to treating the entire crop is best.