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## Double Impatiens

*Cameo, Doublet, & Tioga® (Impatiens walleriana)*

Through these three different series of impatiens, there are many options for the grower. The Tiogas and Cameos are series of double impatiens that offer both compact and standard plant habits. They are all self branching and hold the flowers well above the foliage. Both series are well suited for production in 4"-6" pots and 1 gallon containers. The Doublets are a uniquely double flowering series with a vigorous habit. They are best grown in 6" and 1 gallon containers. Typical crop timing for all three series is 9-17 weeks including time in propagation.

Double Impatiens are available from the Paul Ecke Ranch as an unrooted or rooted cutting.

[Click here for live online inventory](#)

### *In the Greenhouse.....*

#### **Propagation**

Double Impatiens can be propagated in various tray sizes including 72, 84, and 105's.

#### Media

- Choose a well-drained aerated propagation media
- Avoid media containing peat moss which will hold too much water
- Choose a blended media with other components or inorganic media such as Oasis® or Rockwool®

#### Bottom Heat

- Bottom heat will promote healthy root development.
- Maintain bottom heat at 70-75°F/21-24°C.
- Mist will cool the media temperature. Monitor media temperature closely and frequently.

#### Rooting Hormones

- Double Impatiens will benefit from the use of a rooting hormone. Time to root and uniformity in rooting will be improved with use of a hormone.
- Either liquid or powder formulations work equally well. Choose a product with up to 2500 ppm IBA or up to 500 ppm NAA.

#### Misting

- Average days with mist vary from 6-9 days depending on environmental conditions in the greenhouse.
- Mist cuttings so they remain turgid but avoid over misting that results in saturated media.
- Over misting will result in slow rooting and possible problems with root rot and botrytis.

#### Pinching

- Pinch cuttings in week two of propagation to prevent stretch and promote branching.

#### Growth Regulating

- To prevent stretch apply B-Nine at 2500 ppm
- Sprays are most effective when applied after the pinch as new shoots are forming.

Propagation Cycle: 4 weeks

Growing ON.....

## Media

Choose a media with the following traits:

- Good aeration
- Porosity between 5-15%
- Sterile

## Irrigation/Fertilization

- Avoid excess irrigation and fertilization while plants are establishing which can lead to slow root development. Established plants should not be allowed to dry excessively which will result in leaf yellowing and leaf drop.
  - **Fertilizer regime:**
    - Begin fertilizing at transplant.
    - Choose a complete balanced fertilizer complete with minor elements.
    - Avoid fertilizers high in ammoniacal nitrogen and phosphorus. Do not exceed 10% phosphorus.
    - Apply 150 ppm constant liquid feed after transplant. For two weeks rotate fertilizer applications with clear water applications.
    - After two weeks rotate two fertilizer applications with one clear water application.
    - Reduce fertilization to 100 ppm when flower buds are visible to enhance flowering. Resume higher concentrations after flowering is complete.
- \* High levels of ammoniacal nitrogen and phosphorus will promote stretch and reduce flower count.
- \* Excess fertility levels will result in leaf curl. Compact White and Cherry Red are the most sensitive to excess fertility.
- Maintain pH between 5.5-6.3.
  - Optimum EC is 1.5 to 2.0 mmhos. Provide periodic clear water application if excess salts accumulate.

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## Temperature/Humidity

**Temperature regime:**

Establishing temperatures: 65°F/18°C average daily temperatures.

Temperatures for growing on: 55-75°F/13-24°C day and 50-65°F/10-18°C night temperatures.

**Relative Humidity:**

Maintain relative humidity below 70% and provide good air circulation to avoid problems with botrytis.

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## Light

Provide:

- 4000 candles/43,100 lux minimum
- 6000 foot candles/64,600 lux maximum

\* Shade may be required to avoid high temperatures but can encourage stretch and delay flowering.

\*Plants grown outdoors in full sun stay compact and may yellow in response to high light.

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## Spacing

Establish plants pot tight than space to::

- 4" pots – 5-6" centers (approximately 2 per sq. ft.)
- 6" pots/1 gallon – 14" centers
- 8" pots – 18" centers

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## Pinching

1<sup>st</sup> pinch - week 2 of propagation

2<sup>nd</sup> pinch- Tiogas and Cameos are free branching and should not require and additional pinch. Overgrown plants may be trimmed. Mature plants typically bloom within 4-6 weeks after trimming depending on the severity of the cut.

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## Plant Growth Regulators

Cultural management offers the most effective methods of preventing stretch. Adequate spacing, controlled temperatures and DIF, soil moisture management and good light all promote compact, quality growth.

- If needed Bonzi® as a spray at 2-5 ppm or as a drench at 0.5 ppm is effective at controlling stretch.

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## Insect and Disease Concerns

Insects

- Fungus gnats
- Spider Mites
- Thrips

Diseases

- Bacterial Leaf Spot
- Botrytis
- Myrothecium
- Root and Stem rots
- Viruses

For recommended chemical controls for disease and insects please consult [The Flower Fields Federal Disease Control Chart \(463K\)](#) and [The Flower Fields Federal Insect & Mite Control Chart \(541K\)](#) at [www.ecke.com](http://www.ecke.com). Always consult the chemical's label for rates, mixing instructions and restrictions

## **Crop Scheduling**

<b>Container Size</b>	<b># of cuttings per pot</b>	<b>Time to pinch (weeks) after transplanting</b>	<b>Total crop time* (weeks)</b>
4"	1	NR	6-8
5-6"	1	1	7-11
7-8"	2	1	8-12
10" Pots	3-4	Optional	10-14
Hanging Baskets	3-4	1	10-14

\*crop time is reduced under warmer growing conditions

If you have questions about Double Impatiens in production please post your question on our live bulletin board at [www.EckeRanchTechHelp.com](http://www.EckeRanchTechHelp.com) or call 760-753-1134 and choose option#3 for Technical Support.

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