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Gaura Pink Fountain™

Pink Fountain Gaura adds graceful color and whimsy to any garden. It is a medium vigor plant with upright habit. It works well planted alone or in mixed containers. Growers should consider using Pink Fountain in 4", 6" pots, colorbowls, mixed containers, or hanging baskets. Pink Fountain is easy to grow and can grown cool along with other "cool" crops such as pansies, perennials, etc. Crop time is typically 14-17 weeks including time in propagation.

Pink Fountain is available from the Paul Ecke Ranch as an unrooted or rooted cutting.

[Click here for live online inventory](#)

In the Greenhouse.....

Propagation

Pink Fountain 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

- Pink Fountain roots easily without the use of rooting hormone. However, time to root and uniformity in rooting may 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.

Pinch

- Pinch cuttings in week 3 of propagation.

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.
 - **Fertilizer regime:**
 - Begin fertilizing 2 weeks after transplant
 - Choose a complete balanced fertilizer complete with minor elements
 - Apply 200-250 ppm constant liquid feed
 - Alternate with calcium nitrate on a regular basis
 - Additional iron may be needed – apply as iron chelate or iron sulfate (always rinse foliage when using iron sulfate)
 - A slow release product may also be used to supplement a constant liquid feed program and may provide improved performance for the consumer
 - Maintain pH between 5.5-6.0
 - Optimum EC is 2 to 2.5 mmhos. Provide periodic clear water application if excess salts accumulate.
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Temperature/Humidity

Pink Fountain can be grown successfully at a wide range of temperatures but for best results the crop should be established warm. As root growth and top growth begins temperatures can be reduced.

Temperature regime:

Establishing temperature: 65°F/18°C average daily temperature

Temperatures for growing on: 50-70°F/10-21°C day and 45-60°F/7-15°C night

At lower temperatures:

- Flowering will be promoted
- Growth will be slower and time in production longer

At warmer temperatures:

- Time to flower will be longer
- Excess vegetative growth may be a problem

Relative Humidity:

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

Light

Pink Fountain prefers bright light. For best results Pink Fountain should be grown in a greenhouse with retractable roofs or in a field production setting.

Provide:

- 5000 foot candles/53,800 lux minimum
 - 9000 foot candles/96,900 lux maximum
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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

1st pinch - week 3 of propagation

2nd pinch - trim once established (2-3 weeks after transplant)

Additional pinch-shape, correct stretch or time to flower (mature plants will flower 5-6 weeks after pinch)

- Apply a preventative fungicide application for botrytis at the time of pinch. Do not apply mist of water immediately after any hard pinch.
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Plant Growth Regulators

Cool temperatures and good light levels are the best way to control stretch. If needed, Pink Fountain responds to:

- B-Nine® as a spray at 2500 ppm
- Bonzi® as a spray at 30-50 ppm
- Sumagic® as a spray at 13-30 ppm

*Apply any PGR applications prior to visible bud set to avoid delay in time to flower

Insect and Disease Concerns

Insects

- Aphids
- Fungus Gnats
- Whiteflies

Diseases

- Botrytis
- Root and stem rots

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. Always consult the chemical's label for rates, mixing instructions and restrictions

Crop Scheduling

Product Form	# Liners per pot	Weeks to establish	Weeks to flower after pinch	Total Crop Time from transplant (weeks)
4"	1	2-3	5-6	7-10
6" / 1 gallon	2	2-3	5-6	9-12
8"	3	2-3	5-6	11-13

If you have questions about Gaura Pink Fountain in production please post your question on our live bulletin board at www.EckeRanchTechHelp.com or call 760-753-1134 and choose option#3 for Technical Support.

[For high resolution images click here](#)

*Total crop time may be increased with cooler temperatures. Additional pinches or late PGR application will also increase crop time.

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