



Tophat™ Scarlet



syngenta flowers

Plant Growth Regulator (PGR) for Tophat™ Begonia in 306 Packs

Unlike the competition, Tophat Begonia is an excellent item for 306 packs! Syngenta Flowers has trialed alternative options for PGR applications in 306 Pack trays to control vegetative growth of Tophat without affecting flower size or severely stunting plants.



Tophat™ Pink Begonia

No PGRs (left) vs. 0.25 ppm Bonzi® Drench (right)

How We Did it

- **Tophat Begonias** were grown in 306 Pack Trays and treated with 1 of 6 PGR treatments (a control with no PGRs was also included) and flower size measurements taken 2 weeks later. Plants were then potted up into 2.5 qt. pots to see how long it took to grow out of the PGRs and recover flower size; measurements were taken every 2 weeks. Plants were evaluated until 8 weeks post-PGR.

TECH TIP

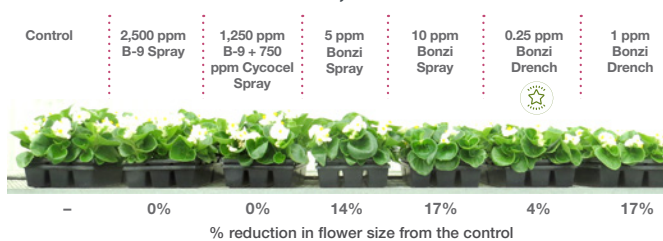
Once plugs have established in the finish container, B-Nine® spray at 2,500 to 5,000 ppm is recommended to control stem elongation without reducing flower size in 1 quart or larger-sized containers. Cool finishing temperatures and high DLI maximize flower size and help control excessive leaf expansion.

The Results

- 0.25 ppm Bonzi® plant growth regulator (PGR) drench is recommended as plants will recover flower size by 4 weeks post-PGR and the consumer will still experience the extra large blooms.
- Bonzi spray treatments (5–10 ppm) significantly reduced flower size, but ad good vegetative growth control. These treatments will provide lasting control for challenging retail environments.
- Most plants grew out of the flower-size reducing PGRs completely by 4 weeks post-PGR, except the 1 ppm PGR drench which took 8 weeks. Although not unmarketable, this treatment negatively affects the consumer experience and is not recommended.

Tophat™ White

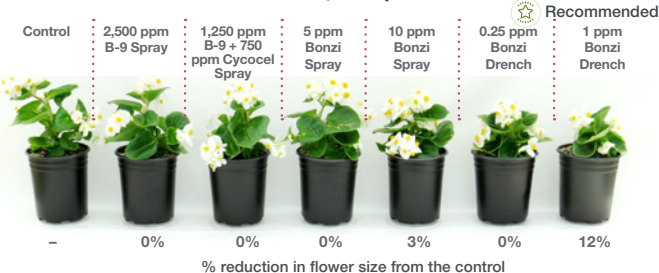
2 Weeks after PGR treatment, 306 Pack



Source: Gilroy, CA August 2018

Tophat™ White

4 Weeks after PGR treatment, 2.5 qt.



Source: Gilroy, CA August 2018

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