**Impatiens New Guinea Super Sonic®**

**Culture Guide**

**Botanical name:** *Impatiens hawkeri*

**Product form:** Vegetative

**Containers:** Pints, Quarts, Gallons, Hanging Baskets

**Habit:** Mounded

**Garden Specifications**

**Garden Height:** 14–16” (35–40 cm) tall

**Garden Width:** 14–18” (35–46 cm) wide

**Exposure:** Part Shade

**USDA zone:** 10 – 11

**AHS zone:** 10–3

**Product use:** Containers, Hanging Baskets, Landscapes, Patio Pots, Combos

**Propagation of Unrooted Cuttings**

**Root emergence:** 8–10 days

**Rooting hormone:** Not recommended.

**Bottom heat temp.:** 70–74 °F (21–23 °C) for the first three weeks. After roots are well developed, temperatures can be lowered to hold and tone the cuttings.

**Misting:** Mist schedules vary depending on light and temperature conditions. Apply just enough moisture to rehydrate the cuttings and keep them from wilting. Cuttings should be hydrated and in a non-wilted stage within 24 hours after sticking. Cuttings that continue to wilt heavily after 24 hours will callus unevenly and will be delayed in rooting. CapSil® (spray adjuvant) can be sprayed on the cuttings at a rate of 2–4 oz/100 gal within 1–2 days after sticking to help in rehydration of the cuttings. Misting should be significantly reduced after 3–4 days and after cuttings become fully hydrated. Applying too much mist early on can lead to foliar disease and tissue breakdown.

**Rec. tray size:** 105-cell (30 mm) or larger

**Propagation timing:** 3.5–4 weeks for a 105-cell plug; add more rooting time for significantly larger plug sizes.

**Temperature**

**Day:** 72–74 °F (22–23 °C)

**Night:** 68–70 °F (20–21 °C)

**Lighting**

**Day extension lighting:** Not Necessary

**Light intensity:** 4,000–6,000 foot candles

**Fertilizer:** Begin fertilization at 100 ppm nitrogen when roots become visible. Rates can be increased up to 200 ppm nitrogen after roots become well developed. Use primarily Cal-Mag® (calcium nitrate + magnesium nitrate) fertilizers in propagation to prevent unwanted stretch.

**Pinching:** Not Recommended

**Plant growth regulators (PGRs):** To control growth, sprays of Bonzi® (1–2 ppm) are generally used. Growers can also spray Florel® (250–300 ppm) at 1–2 days after sticking unrooted cuttings to reduce premature flower bud development and help provide more uniform (but delayed) flowering during finishing. This is a good strategy for baskets or large patio pots where early flowering is not desired.

**Finishing**

**Temperature**

**Day:** 72–74 °F (22–23 °C)

**Night:** 68–70 °F (20–21 °C)

**Average daily temperature:** 70–72 °F (21–22 °C)

**Lighting**

**Day extension lighting:** Not Necessary

**Light intensity:** 4,000–6,000 foot candles

**Transplanting:** Transplant directly into the finished container. Place the rooting media slightly below the level of media in the container. Make sure the root ball is covered and that the cutting is situated in the center of the pot.

**Media pH:** 5.8–6.2
Media EC: SME EC: 1.5–2.1 mS/cm, PourThru EC: 2.3–3.2 mS/cm
Fertilizer: 125–175 ppm N
Pinching: No. Pinching is typically not needed.

Plant growth regulators (PGRs): Super Sonic growth can be controlled using sprays of Bonzi® (1–3 ppm). Avoid late Bonzi® sprays to prevent flower size reduction. Florel® (300 ppm) can be used early on after transplant to delay flowering, but this should only be done for large baskets or pots where flower delay is desired.

Tech tip: Super Sonic New Guinea Impatiens are relatively fast rooters. Unrooted cuttings are sensitive to chilling, so avoid storing cuttings <48 °F (9 °C). Keys to success are to avoid water and heat stress when the plants mature. Scout for thrips regularly and thrips-vectored tospoviruses. Check media EC periodically to avoid high salt levels. Moderate light levels and warm temperatures provide the most significant flower growth.

Moisture level: Media should be allowed to dry between irrigations. Alternate between moisture level 2 and 4.

2 - MEDIUM: Soil is light brown in color, no water can be extracted from soil, and soil will crumble apart.

4 - WET: Soil is dark brown but not shiny, no free water is seen at the surface of the soil, when pressed or squeezed water drips easily, and trays are heavy with a visible bend in the middle.

Common pests: Aphids, Thrips, Spider mites, Broad mites

Common diseases: Botrytis, Myrothecium Fungal leaf spot (propagation), Impatiens necrotic spot virus (INSV)

Scheduling

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Crop Time</th>
<th>Plants Per Pot</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.0 pint (4 inch)</td>
<td>5–6 weeks</td>
<td>1 ppp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0 quart (4.5 to 5 inch)</td>
<td>6–7 weeks</td>
<td>1 ppp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.25 to 2.5 quart (5.5 to 6.5 inch, trade gallon)</td>
<td>8–10 weeks</td>
<td>1 ppp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0 quart to 2.0 gallon (7.5 to 10 inch)</td>
<td>9–10 weeks</td>
<td>2–3 ppp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 gallon hanging basket (10 inch basket)</td>
<td>10–11 weeks</td>
<td>3 ppp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0 gallon hanging basket (12 inch basket)</td>
<td>10–11 weeks</td>
<td>4 ppp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0 gallon hanging basket (14 inch basket)</td>
<td>10–11 weeks</td>
<td>5 ppp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Estimated finish crop time is from transplant of a 105-cell tray and finished at the recommended average daily temperature of 70 °F (21 °C).

Example crop schedule for a 1.25 quart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weeks From Transplant</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 week</td>
<td>Provide average daily temperatures of 70 °F (21 °C) or higher and DLI levels above 15 mols/day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>Apply a spray of Bonzi® (1 ppm) if needed to control early growth. Scout regularly for Thrips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 weeks</td>
<td>Watch for Botrytis as plants mature and fill the leaf canopy. Check media EC and pH levels and reduce fertilizer levels if needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 weeks</td>
<td>Sale</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Try Chrysal Alesco®, a postharvest foliar spray, to protect ethylene sensitive crops during shipping and retail.

Super Sonic® Dark Red