**Delphinium Delphina™**

**Culture Guide**

**Botanical name:** Delphinium elatum  
**Product form:** Seed  
**Containers:** Quarts, Gallons  
**Habit:** Upright  
**Vernalization:** Not Required (First Year Flowering)

**Garden Specifications**

**Garden Height:** 14–18" (35–45 cm) tall  
**Garden Width:** 6–10" (15–25 cm) wide  
**Exposure:** Full sun  
**USDA zone:** 4–7  
**AHS zone:** 6–1  
**Product use:** Containers, Landscapes

**Germination**

**Stages 1 & 2**  
**Germination time:** 5–8 days  
**Media temp:** 68–72 °F (20–22 °C)  
**Chamber:** Optional  
**Light:** Not required for germination  
**Seed cover:** Yes  
**Moisture level:** 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.  
**Rec. tray size:** 128-cell tray  
**Seeds per cell:** 2–3

**Young Plant Production**

**Stages 3 & 4**  
**Temperature**  
**Day:** 64–66 °F (18–19 °C)  
**Night:** 64–66 °F (18–19 °C)  
**Average daily temperature:** 65 °F (19 °C)  

**Lighting**

**Day extension lighting:** Beneficial to 14 hours  
**Light intensity:** 1,000–1,200 foot candles (200–250 micro mols) for the first two weeks after sticking or until root development occurs. Light levels can be increased up to 3,000 foot candles (600 micro mols) as rooting increases and the cutting matures.  
**Day length response:** Facultative long day  
**Daily light integral:** 10–12 mols/day  
**Media pH:** 6.1–6.5

**Media EC:** SME 0.5 to 0.75 mS/cm  
**Fertilizer:** 50–75 ppm N  
**Moisture level:** Media should be allowed to dry between irrigations. Alternate between moisture level 3 and 4.  
3 - MOIST: Soil is brown in color, strongly squeezing the soil will extract a few drops of water, and trays are light with no visible bend.  
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.  

**Pinching:** No  
**Plant growth regulators (PGRs):** If needed, spray B-Nine® WSG at 1,500–3,700 ppm or Bonzi® at 3–5 ppm to tone plugs.  
**Plug grow time:** 7–8 weeks in a 128-cell tray  
**Comments:** Once germinated, grow plugs at cool temperatures for best quality.

**Bulking and Vernalization**

**Vernalization:** Not Required (First Year Flowering)

**Finishing**

**Temperature**  
**Day:** 66–68 °F (19–20 °C)  
**Night:** 56–58 °F (13–14 °C)  
**Average daily temperature:** 63 °F (18 °C)  

**Lighting**

**Day extension lighting:** Beneficial to 14 hours  
**Light intensity:** 4,000–6,000 foot candles

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Delphina™ Dark Blue Black Bee

Day length response: Facultative long day  
Daily light integral: 14–16 mols/day

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

**Media pH:** 6.1–6.5
**Media EC:** SME EC: 0.9–1.3 mS/cm, PourThru EC: 1.4–2.0 mS/cm
**Fertilizer:** 75–125 ppm N
**Pinching:** No. Pinching is not recommended or needed.

**Plant growth regulators (PGRs):** If needed, spray applications of Bonzi® at 10–15 ppm of Sumagic® at 5–10 ppm are effective early in the crop cycle. Apply a Bonzi® drench at 2–3 ppm to hold size.

**Tech tip:** Be careful not to overwater to Delphina. If kept too wet the plants tend to show fertility deficiency symptoms.

**Example crop schedule for a 2.5 quart**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weeks From Transplant</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 week</td>
<td>Transplant 1–2 plugs per pot for gallon-sized pots and finish at 65 °F (18 °C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 weeks</td>
<td>Apply plant growth regulators (PGRs) sprays of B-Nine® WSG or Bonzi® as needed to tone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 weeks</td>
<td>Apply plant growth regulators (PGRs) drench of Bonzi® to hold prior to ship if needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 weeks</td>
<td>Finish</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Moisture level:** Media should be allowed to dry between irrigations. Alternate between moisture level 1 and 3.

1 - DRY: Soil is tan to gray in color, trays are extremely light, and soil pulls away from sides of container.

3 - MOIST: Soil is brown in color, strongly squeezing the soil will extract a few drops of water, and trays are light with no visible bend.

**Common pests:** Aphids, Thrips, Whiteflies
**Common diseases:** Botrytis, Pythium, Fungal leaf spots

**Scheduling**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Crop Time</th>
<th>Plants Per Pot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.0 quart (4.5 to 5 inch)</td>
<td>9–11 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>9–11 weeks</td>
<td>1–2 ppp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0 quart to 2.0 gallon (7.5 to 10 inch)</td>
<td>9–11 weeks</td>
<td>2–3 ppp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Estimated finish crop time is from transplant of a 128-cell tray and finished at an average daily temperature (ADT) of 65 °F (18 °C).

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