# Interspecific Geranium

## Pelargonium Big Eeze®

*Pelargonium x hybrida*

### Tray & Rooting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Form</strong></th>
<th>Vegetative Cutting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rooting Hormone</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tray Size</strong></td>
<td>32, 52, 72, 102 strip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Plants Per Cell</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Days In Mist</strong></td>
<td>8-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wks. From Stick To Transplant</strong></td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pinch?</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Days To Pinch</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Fertility

| **Fertilize Through Mist?** | No |
| **Fertilizer Rate** | Moderate: 100-150 ppm N (20-10-20 constant feed) |
| **EC Range** | Moderate (1.0-1.5 mS via SME) |
| **pH Range** | 6.0-6.4 |

### Temperature

| **Vernalization Required?** | No |
| **Average Soil Temperature** | 68-72°F (20-22°C) |
| **Average Air Temperature** | 65-72°F (18-22°C) |

### Irrigation Frequency

**Level 4:** Keep media moderately moist at all times

### Light (Supplemental)

*No*

### Shade

Keep light intensity between 700-1200 fc (7500-12900 lux) until callus formation, 2000-2500 fc (21500-26900 lux) during root initiation, and 2500-4000 fc (26900-43100 lux) for toning.

### Potential Diseases

Xanthomonas, Rhizoctonia, Botrytis

### Potential Pests

Thrips, aphids, fungus gnats

### PGR Suggestions

- 1,500-2500 ppm Daminozide (85%) spray
- Ethephon (3.9%) at 350-500 ppm can be used for bud removal and branching 12-21 days after stick (when liners are rooted). Do not apply within 6-8 weeks of ship date.

### Tips

- Apply a 200 ppm IBA spray (or equivalent product) within 24 hours of sticking to aid root formation.
- Only mist enough to keep leaves turgid

### Cultivar List

Dark Red, Foxy Flamingo, Fuchsia Blue, Neon, Pink

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FINISHING

PELARGONIUM BIG EEZE®

*Pelargonium x hybrida*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTAINER SIZE</th>
<th>PLANTS PER POT</th>
<th>EARLY SEASON</th>
<th>MID SEASON</th>
<th>LATE SEASON</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 in. (15 cm)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7-11</td>
<td>7-9</td>
<td>7-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 in. (19 cm)</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>7-11</td>
<td>7-10</td>
<td>7-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 in. (22 cm)</td>
<td>2-3</td>
<td>8-12</td>
<td>8-11</td>
<td>8-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 in. (30 cm)</td>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>8-12</td>
<td>8-11</td>
<td>8-10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FERTILITY**

Fertilizer Rate

Moderate: 125-200 ppm N (15-5-15 at or similar calcium-nitrate formula alternated with 20-10-20)

EC Range

High (2.0-2.5 mS via SME)

pH Range

6.0-6.4

**TEMPERATURE**

Day Temperature

70-75°F (21-24°C)

Night Temperature

65-70°C (18-21°C)

**IRRIGATION**

Irrigation Frequency

Level 4: Keep media moderately moist at all times

**LIGHT**

Daylength Neutral?

Yes

Supplemental

No

Benefits From Shade?

No

**PINCHING**

Finishing Pinch?

No

**POTENTIAL DISEASES**

Xanthomonas, Rhizoctonia, Botrytis,

**POTENTIAL PESTS**

thrips, aphids, fungus gnats,

**PGR SUGGESTIONS**

- 750-1500 ppm Chloromequat (11.8%) as needed
- An additional spray application of Ethephon (3.9%) at 250 ppm after transplant will improve branching and help control growth. Ethephon delays flowering and should be discontinued eight weeks before ship.

**TIPS**

- Big Eeze® should be grown in full sunlight (4500-7000 fc [48400-75300 lux]) with adequate spacing. Low light will slow flowering and cause weak, stretched growth.
- Cultivars in this series are relatively vigorous and will likely require PGR applications.
- Utilize fertilizer formulations low in phosphorous and ammonium to help control stretch, increase branching, increase shelf life, and encourage full flowering. Periodically use a Calcium/Magnesium fertilizer with an containing ammonium.
- Consider direct-stick with callused cuttings to reduce overall production time by 1-2 weeks.

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DESCRIPTION

Big EEZE® is a semi-vigorous green-foliaged interspecific series within the Dümmen Orange Pelargonium assortment. Big Eeze® is recognized as a robust interspecific with superior basal branching compared to other geraniums on the market. True to its name, Big EEZE® has gigantic flowers atop an easy-to-grow chassis.

KEY GARDEN INFORMATION

Exposure Full Sun to Partial Shade
Height 12-18 inches (30-46cm)
Garden Spacing 12-18 inches (30-46cm)
Watering instructions Allow soil to dry slightly between thorough waterings.
Hardiness Zone 10-12

CONSUMER APPEAL

- Big EEZE® is the ideal choice for landscape applications due to its extra-large bold flowers and stress tolerance though it is versatile in containers and high impact monoculture planters.
- Interspecifics are known for their heat tolerance and versatility, this series is no exception.

GARDEN ATTRIBUTES

- If planted in the landscape, Pelargonium prefer rich well-drained soils. However, they can tolerate heavy clay soils if not overwatered.
- Although not favored by bees, the long bloom season and bright flowers of Pelargonium naturally attract hummingbirds. Additionally, their recognizable foliage aroma is a natural deterrent to rabbits, deer, and herbivorous insects.
- Pelargonium can be overwintered indoors for extended seasonal interest.

NATIVITY

Of hybrid origin: parental lineages native to Southern Africa.

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