

INTERSPECIFIC GERANIUM

PROPAGATION

PELARGONIUM SANTANA

Pelargonium x hybrida



TRAY & ROOTING

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

FERTILITY

Fertilize Through Mist?	No
Fertilizer Rate	Moderate: 100-150 ppm (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 3: 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.



Fire



Red Splash

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.

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FINISHING

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CONTAINER SIZE	PLANTS PER POT	EARLY SEASON	MID SEASON	LATE SEASON
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6 in. (15 cm)	1	7-11	7-9	7-9
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8 in. (19 cm)	1-2	7-11	7-10	7-9
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10 in. (22 cm)	2-3	8-12	8-11	8-10
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12 in. (30 cm)	3-4	8-12	8-11	8-10
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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° (18-21°C)**

IRRIGATION

Irrigation Frequency **Level 3: 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 *Chlormequat* (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.



White Splash

TIPS

- Santana 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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INTERSPECIFIC GERANIUM

FEATURES AND BENEFITS

PELARGONIUM SANTANA

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DESCRIPTION

Santana is a semi-vigorous, interspecific pelargonium with dark green foliage. The Santana series boasts exceptional uniformity in habit and flower timing, making crop scheduling and bench run sales very easy to achieve. Santana's are ideal for hanging baskets with a mounded habit and umbels that present on the top and to the side of the plant.

KEY GARDEN INFORMATION

Exposure	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

- Santana has exceptional garden performance, are easy to grow and have superior branching characteristics.
- 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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