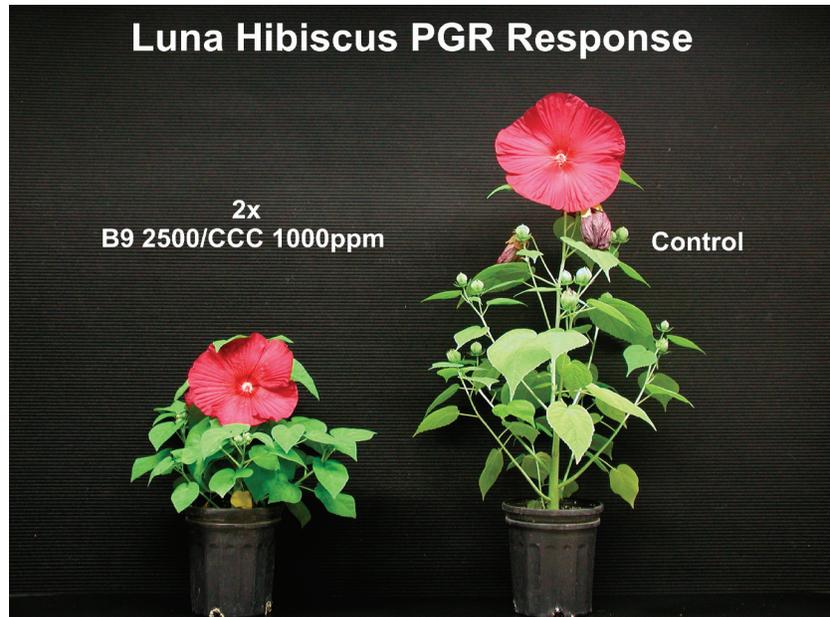
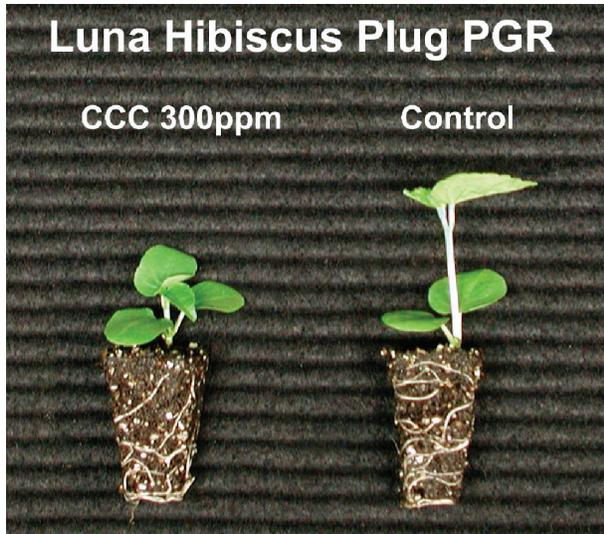


Luna Hibiscus branches naturally without pinching (far right plant).

If plants are allowed to stretch prior to PGR applications, pinching at the 6 to 8-leaf stage can be done to produce an acceptable crop. Pinching will delay the crop by 7 to 10 days.

Pinching too early will result in fewer branches and a less desirable plant (far left plant).

PanAmerican Seed Culture Research



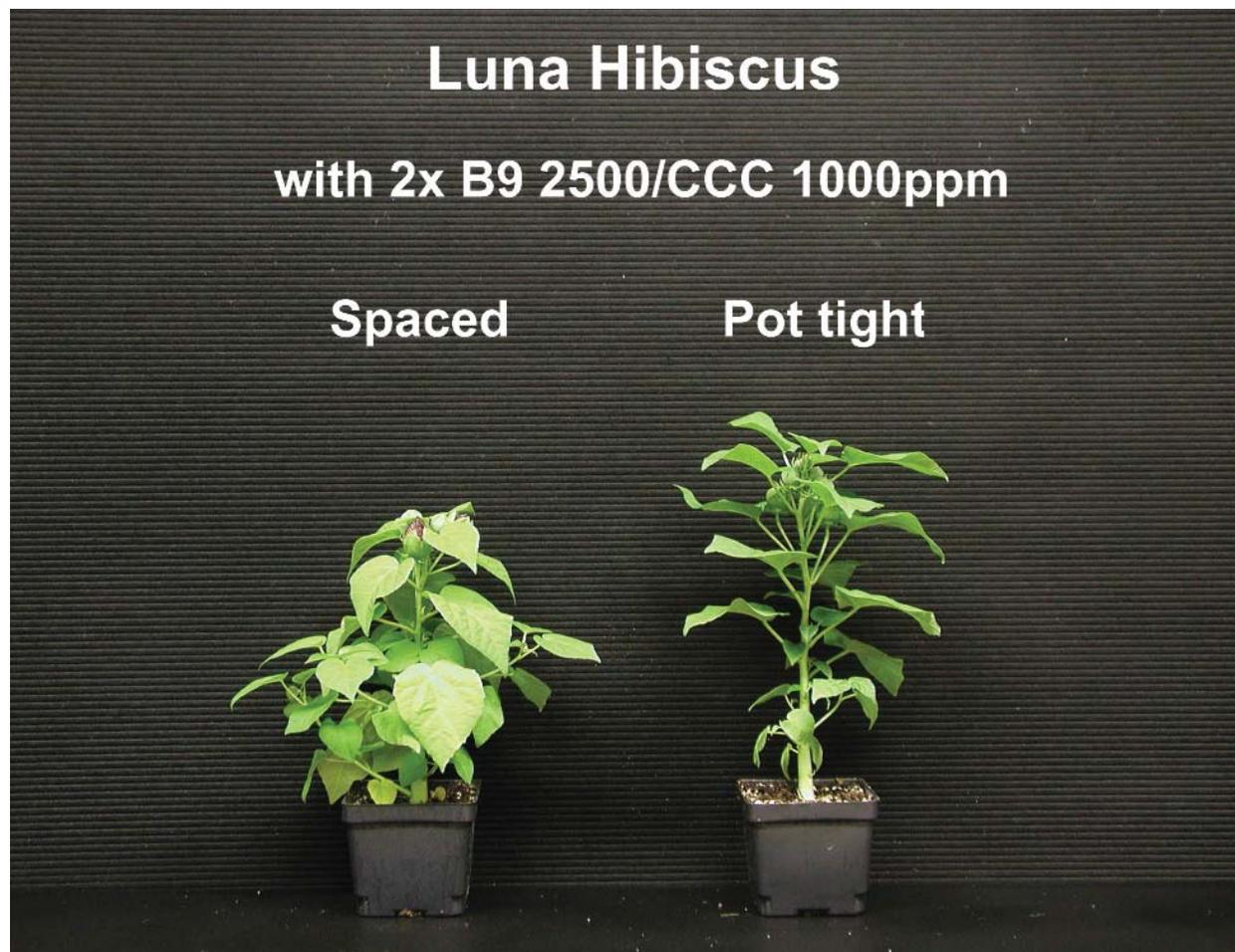
Luna Hibiscus requires PGRs to control plug and finished plant size. A Cycocel 300ppm spray at 10 days after sowing will make Luna Hibiscus plugs more compact (left plug in top picture). A tank mix of B-Nine 2,500ppm and Cycocel 750 to 1,000ppm sprayed 2 and 4 weeks after transplant will control plant height and make foliage darker green (left plant in bottom picture).

PanAmerican Seed Culture Research



Luna Hibiscus can be grown either in soilless mix or in nursery mix. Plants will grow more slowly and require less PGR (1 application) when grown in nursery mix (left plant).

PanAmerican Seed Culture Research



High light will promote branching and reduce plant height. Spacing when plants touch each other is highly recommended (left plant).

PanAmerican Seed Culture Research

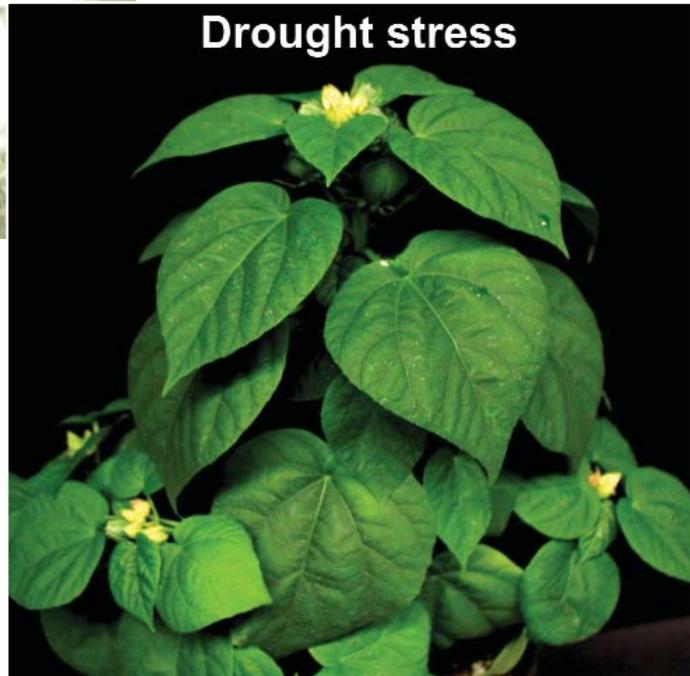
LUNA HIBISCUS TEMPERATURE EFFECT



Luna Hibiscus likes warm growing conditions. Daily average temperature (DAT) above 68°F (20°C) is highly recommended. Growing under DAT below 68°F (20°C) continuously causes foliage chlorosis or bronzing (left plant in top picture) and long crop time. Above DAT 68°F (20°C), the warmer the temperature, the faster the crop time (bottom picture).

PanAmerican Seed Culture Research

LUNA HIBISCUS WATER STRESS EFFECT



As a native marshland plant, Hibiscus can survive wet or even saturated conditions (top picture). It is necessary to grow Luna moist in production. Buds became yellow and eventually aborted after two cycles of dry to wilt conditions (bottom picture). When planted outside, established plants with a vigorous root system can tolerate drier conditions.

PanAmerican Seed Culture Research

CUTTING vs. SEED



Seed-propagated plants (right plant in each picture) show excellent natural basal branching. Vegetatively propagated plants need to be pinched for branching. In the photos above, all vegetatively propagated plants received 1 pinch after transplant. Dragon Wing Begonia did not receive a pinch.