

# GrowerFacts Extra

## Sunflower Always Sunny Gold

Additional Culture Research

from

PanAmerican Seed®

# Sunflower Always Sunny Gold

Plant Growth Regulator (PGR) Response, published 2025

PanAmericanSeed.

## CULTURE:

- Plug tray size: 128 cell
- Germination conditions: 72°F/22°C, light, cover with vermiculite
- **Plug daylength: Night Interruption (NI) from 10 pm to 2 am\***
- Transplant date: 2 weeks after sowing
- Container size: 1 Gallon (13 cm) with 1 plant per pot
- Environmental conditions:
  - Plug stage: ADT = 73°F/23°C, DLI = 10.2 mol·m<sup>-2</sup>·d<sup>-1</sup>
  - Finish stage: ADT = 69°F/21°C, DLI = 14.6 mol·m<sup>-2</sup>·d<sup>-1</sup>

Note: \*Recommended best practice (see next slide)



# Sunflower Always Sunny Gold

Best Practice, published 2025

PanAmericanSeed.

Growing the plugs under long days (14+ hours) or night interruption for 2 weeks is critical to achieve fast finish (see below photo).

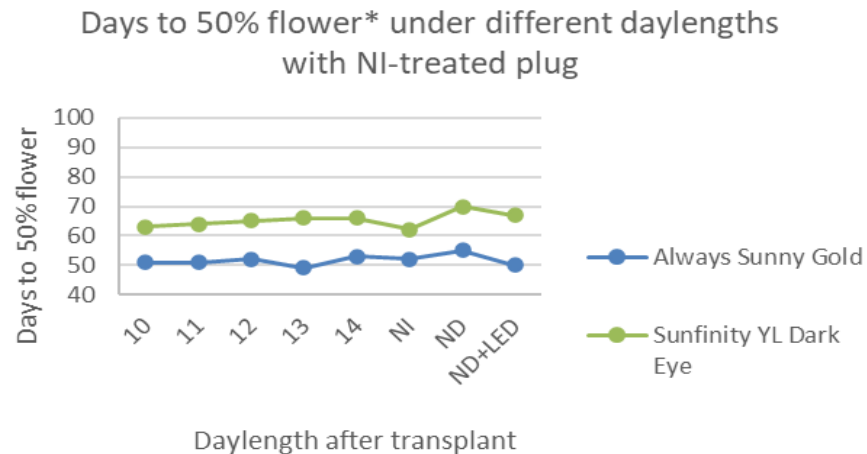
After LD plug treatment, plants can be finished under any daylength.



Plug LD, Finish ND

Plug SD, Finish ND

In addition, Always Sunny Gold will finish 10-14 days earlier than Sunfinity Yellow Dark Eye when plugs are grown under long days.



Note: \* when 50% plants have an open flower

# Sunflower Always Sunny Gold

Plug PGR Response, published 2025

PanAmericanSeed.

## ANNUALS



Paclobutrazol 2 ppm  
srench

Control



Paclobutrazol 2 ppm  
srench

Control

Paclobutrazol 2 ppm srench (2x the spray rate, 1 gallon/100 ft<sup>2</sup>) at radicle emergence works well for plug height control.

# Sunflower Always Sunny Gold

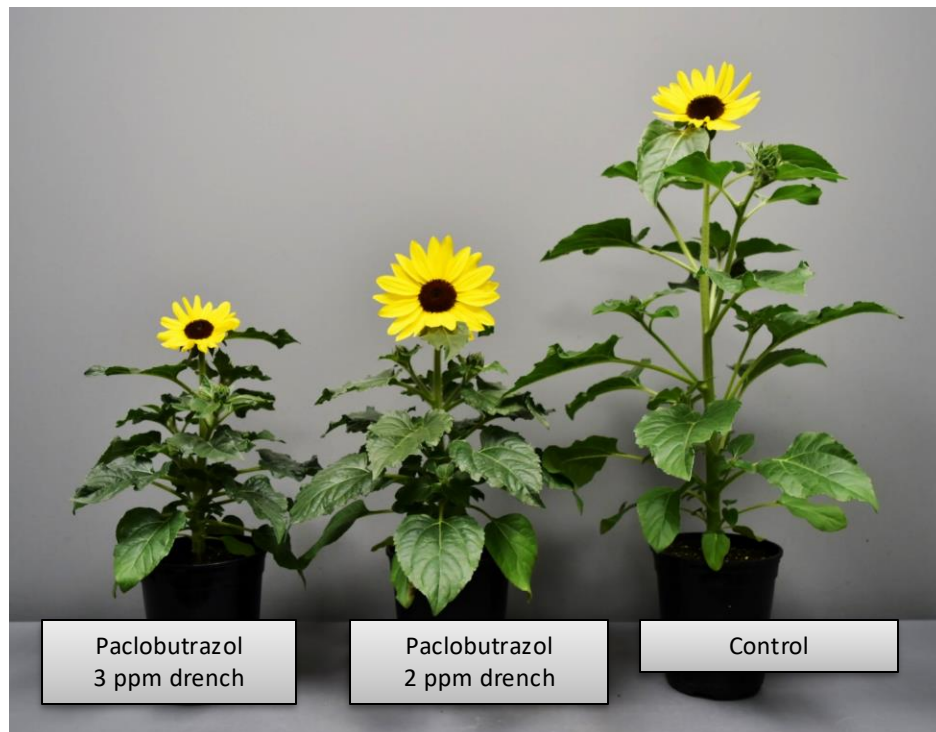
Finish Stage PGR Response, published 2025

PanAmericanSeed.

## ANNUALS

Sunflower Always Sunny Gold is responsive to a paclobutrazol drench in finish.

- A 3 ppm drench at 2 weeks after transplant works well.
- Drench can be repeated 2 weeks later, if necessary, especially in warm conditions.





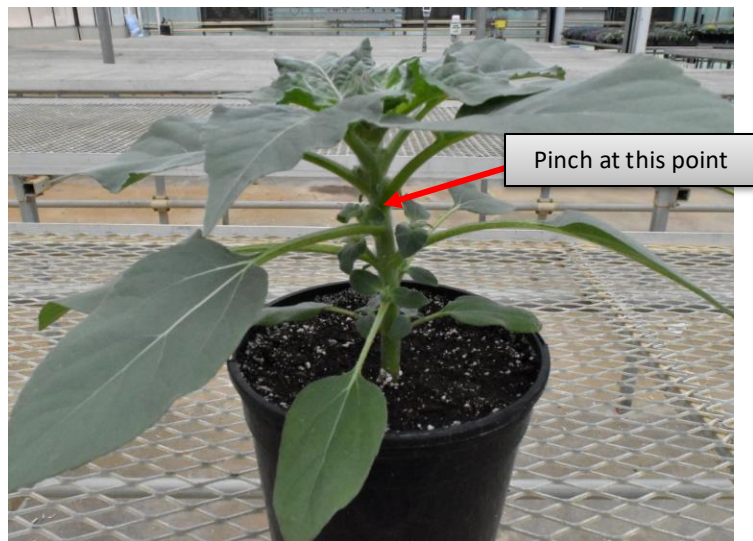
# Sunflower Always Sunny Gold

Pinch with PGR Response, published 2025

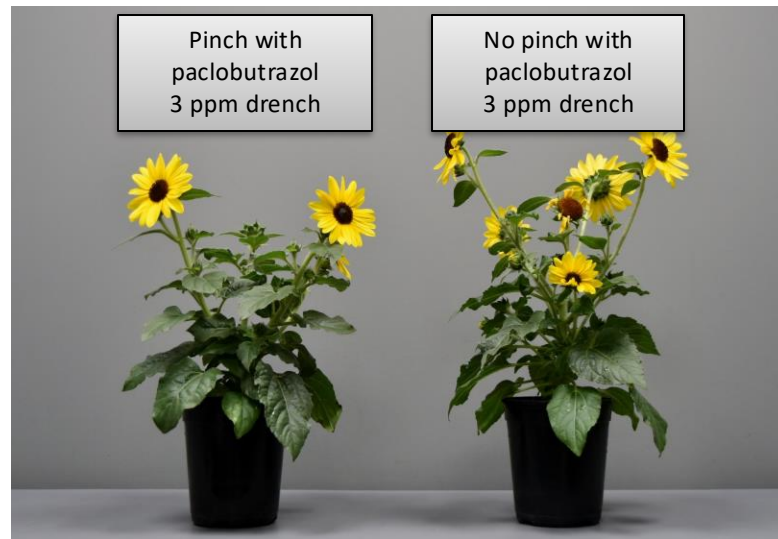
PanAmericanSeed.

## ANNUALS

Option to pinch at 6-7 internodes stage, leaving 4 internodes or 8 leaves.



Pinching delays flowering by 10-14 days.



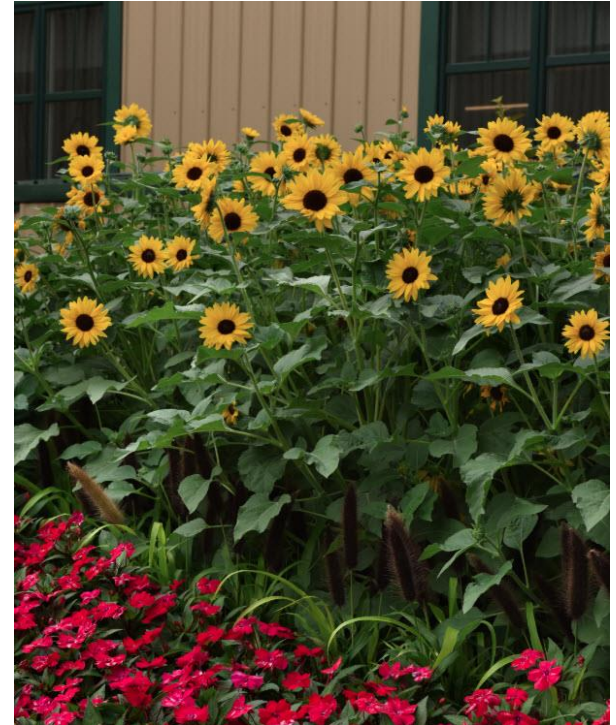
# Sunflower Always Sunny Gold

PGR Response, published 2025

PanAmericanSeed.

## RECOMMENDATION

- Paclobutrazol 2 ppm spreng at radicle emergence for plug height control.
- Paclobutrazol 3 ppm drench at 2 weeks after transplant to control finish height.
  - Option to use daminozide 2,000 ppm spray 3x/week for the regions that can't use Paclobutrazol.
  - Optional pinch with PGR yields plants with multiple blooms at first flower, but delays flowering by 10-14 days



# Sunflower Always Sunny Gold

Drought Tolerance Study, published 2025

PanAmericanSeed.

Plants were saturated, then received no water for 4 days. Always Sunny Gold was slightly more drought tolerant than Sunfinity Yellow Dark Eye.

Wilted plants of both varieties recovered after watering.





# Sunflower Always Sunny Gold

Field Performance, published 2025

PanAmericanSeed.

## FIELD PERFORMANCE

- Plants grow out of PGR about 4-5 weeks after transplant to field.
- Always Sunny Gold has stronger stems and is taller than Sunfinity Yellow Dark Eye.
- Always Sunny Gold is longer lasting in the field.



Week 31

Always Sunny Gold

Sunfinity Yellow Dk Eye



Week 38