

## Coleus, Premium Shade Kong Jr. Series

(*Solenostemon scutellarioides*)

Annuals Culture (revised 03/14/17)

**Plug crop time:** 5 to 6 weeks

**Transplant to finish:** 3 to 4 weeks

- Kong Jr.'s heart-shaped leaves are 30% smaller than Kong's, but just as stunning. They make Kong Jr. easier to ship, with less breakage and less loss.
- Leaf size is well-matched across the series.
- Well-branched, tidy habit is irresistible to shoppers.
- Performs well in landscapes, patio planters and mixed containers.
- Adds unique colours and patterns not available in Kong series.
- Also works in indoor plant programs.

### General Information

Exposure	Bloom Season	Height	Spread	Spacing
Shade, Partial Sun	-	18-24 in. (46-61 cm)	20-35 in. (51-89 cm)	15-24 in. (38-61 cm)

### Germination

Seed Form	Recommended Plug Size	Seeds/Cell	Plug Crop Weeks	Days to Germinate	Initial Media pH/EC	Cover Seed
PEL	288	1	5-6	4-5	5.5-5.8 pH 0.75 mmhos/cm	Light cover

### Plug Production

	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4
<b>Moisture</b>	Level 4	Level 3-4	Level 2-4	Level 2-4
<b>Temperature</b>	72-75°F (22-24°C)	72-75°F (22-24°C)	68-70°F (20-21°C)	60-62°F (16-17°C)
<b>Light</b>	Optional	2,500 f.c. (26,900 Lux)	2,500 f.c. (26,900 Lux)	2,500-5,000 f.c. (26,900-53,800 Lux)
<b>Fertilizer</b>	Less than 100 ppm N - Less than 0.7 EC		100 to 175 ppm N - 0.7 to 1.2 EC	100 to 175 ppm N - 0.7 to 1.2 EC

### Fertilizer Notation

To prevent diseases, irrigate early in the day so foliage is dry by nightfall.

### Propagation Key Tips

Coleus is very sensitive to high salts, particularly high ammonium. During germination, keep ammonium levels lower than 10 ppm. PGRs are generally not needed.

### Growing on to Finish

Growing on Temperature	Target Media pH/EC	Fertilizer	Daylength
(day) 68-75°F (20-24°C) (night) 65-68°F (18-20°C)	5.8-6.2 pH 1.5-2.0 mmhos/cm	100 to 175 ppm N - 0.7 to 1.2 EC	Facultative Short Day

## Crop Scheduling

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Container Size	Plugs/Pot	Crop Time	Season	PGR
5'6"/1 Gallon	1 (ppp)	4-5 (weeks)	Spring	-
5'6"/1 Gallon	1 (ppp)	5-6 (weeks)	Spring	-

### Common Problems

Insects: Aphids, Mealy Bugs, Whiteflies Diseases: Alternaria, Botrytis, Verticillium Other: Excessive internode elongation under low light

### Finishing Key Tips

Do not pinch, as it will result in smaller leaves and delay crop time. Ethephon can be applied to increase branching and control height. Growth Regulators: Kong and Kong Jr. are well branched and have short internodes, but because of the large leaves, the plants tend to get too wide and need more space before they get too tall. Growth regulators are generally not needed. But if necessary, B-Nine/Alar (daminozide) 2,500 to 5,000 ppm (3.0 to 6.0 g/l 85% formulation or 4.0 to 8.0 g/l of 64% formulation) can be applied at 2 to 3 weeks after transplanting. Repeat if necessary.

**NOTE:** Growers should use the information presented here as a starting point. Crop times will vary depending on the climate, location, time of year, and greenhouse environmental conditions. Chemical and PGR recommendations are only guidelines. It is the responsibility of the applicator to read and follow all the current label directions for the specific chemical being used in accordance with all regulations.

## Variety Pictures

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Green Halo



Lime Vein



Rose



Scarlet

PanAmericanSeed™

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