

## Coleus, Premium Shade Kong® Series

(*Solenostemon scutellarioides*)

Annuals Culture (revised 11/02/23)

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

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

- Extremely large leaves and unique patterns on well-branched plants.
- Excellent shade alternative for large containers, large mixed combos and landscapes.
- Also works in indoor plant programs.
- Prefers full shade for best performance.

KONG Mosaic, Red and Rose are bred by Sakata Seed Corporation.

### General Information

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

### Germination

Seed Form	Recommended Plug Size	Seeds/Cell	Plug Crop Weeks	Days from 50% to maximum germination	Initial Media pH/EC (1:2)	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>Fertiliser</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)

### Fertiliser 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 (1:2)	Fertiliser	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

Container Size	Plugs/Pot	Crop Time	Season	PGR
306 Pack/1801	1 (ppp)	4-5 (weeks)	Spring	-
4"/4.5"/Quart/10 cm	1 (ppp)	4-5 (weeks)	Spring	-
5"/6"/1 Gallon/15 cm	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

Ethephon can be applied to increase branching and control height. Do not pinch, as it will result in smaller leaves and delay crop time. Note: Kong Salmon Pink might appear dark bronze under some very low light conditions. Later in the season, and in Summer landscape, colour will appear Salmon Pink. 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 guidelines only. PanAmerican Seed recommends that growers conduct a trial of products under their own conditions. Crop times will vary depending on the climate, location, time of year, and greenhouse environmental conditions. It is the responsibility of the grower to confirm the treatment is available in their region as well as read and follow all the current label directions relating to the products. Nothing herein shall be deemed a warranty or guaranty by PanAmerican Seed of any products listed herein. PanAmerican Seed's terms and conditions of sale shall apply to all products listed herein.

## Variety Pictures



Lime Sprite



Mosaic



Red



Rose



Salmon Pink



Scarlet



Empire Mixture



PanAmerican Seed Co.  
622 Town Road, West Chicago, Illinois, USA, 60185  
+1 800-231-7065 [PanAmSeed.com](http://PanAmSeed.com)

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