# GrowerFacts

## Celosia Neo<sup>™</sup> Series

(Celosia cristata)

#### Grow your margin, grow your sales

Cut Flowers Culture (revised 01/08/25)

Neo lets you grow over a longer period through the year and yield more usable stems from every sq. metre/sq. foot. Ship out better quality *C. cristata* and give florists a product that's easier to arrange and easier to sell. Less long-day sensitive, making it easier to produce over a longer period during the year for most growers. Features unique colours and a much better leaf habit. Easier to work with for bouquets or flower arrangements due to smaller leaves.

### **General Information**

| Cultivation Type   | Usage     | Stem Length              | Timing Group |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Greenhouse, Tunnel | Secondary | 28-40 in.<br>(71-102 cm) | N/A          |

### Germination

| Seed Form | Recommended<br>Plug Size | Seeds/Cell | Plug Crop Weeks | Days from 50% to maximum germination | Initial Media<br>pH/EC (1:2) | Cover Seed  |
|-----------|--------------------------|------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| PEL       | 288                      | 1          | 2-3             | 3-4                                  | 5.8-6.2 pH<br>0.75 mmhos/cm  | Light cover |

### **Plug Production**

|             | Stage 1                                   | Stage 2                                   | Stage 3                                 | Stage 4                                 |
|-------------|---|---|---|---|
| Moisture    | Level 4                                   | Level 4                                   | Level 3-4                               | Level 3-4                               |
| Temperature | 68-72°F<br>(20-22°C)                      | 68-72°F<br>(20-22°C)                      | 68-72°F<br>(20-22°C)                    | 68-72°F<br>(20-22°C)                    |
| Light       | Light                                     | 1,000-2,500 f.c.<br>(10,800-26,900 Lux)   | 1,000-2,500 f.c.<br>(10,800-26,900 Lux) | 2,500-5,000 f.c.<br>(26,900-53,800 Lux) |
| Fertiliser  | Less than 100 ppm N<br>(Less than 0.7 EC) | Less than 100 ppm N<br>(Less than 0.7 EC) | 100 to 175 ppm N<br>(0.7 to 1.2 EC)     | 100 to 175 ppm N<br>(0.7 to 1.2 EC)     |

### **Propagation Key Tips**

Quantitative short-day plant. Flowers will initiate under short days. Celosia makes a taproot and is sensitive to root damage, which will result in early bud formation, deformed flowers and less uniformity. Therefore, plant before the plugs get rootbound. Maintain a constantly moist media, especially for the first 2 weeks after transplanting to prevent premature flowering.

### Growing on to Finish

| Target Media<br>pH/EC (1:2) | Fertiliser                          | Daylength             |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 5.8-6.5 pH<br>0.75 mmhos/cm | 100 to 175 ppm N<br>(0.7 to 1.2 EC) | Facultative Short Day |

### **Daylength Notation**

Facultative short-day plant. Flowers will initiate faster under short days.

### Crop Scheduling

| Cultivation Type | Support  | Temperature                                   | Density   | Crop Time  |
|------------------|----------|---|---|------------|
| Tunnel           | Required | 16-24°C/60-75°F (day) 15-18°C/59-65°F (night) | 6-8 plants/ft <sup>2</sup> (65-86 plants/m <sup>2</sup> ) | 6-10 weeks |
| Greenhouse       | Required | 16-18°C/60-65°F (day) 16°C/60°F (night)       | 6-8 plants/ft <sup>2</sup> (65-86 plants/m <sup>2</sup> ) | 8-12 weeks |

### Fertiliser Notation

Celosia is susceptible to salt and high EC.

#### **Chemical Sensitivity**

PGRs are generally not recommended. Celosia is responsive to B-Nine/Alar (daminozide) 2,000 ppm (2.5 g/l 85% formulation or 3.0 g/l of 64% formulation).

### **Common Problems**

Celosia cristata is very sensitive to Thrips. Zero tolerance is strongly recommended. Start spray program as soon as possible after planting. Other insects: Aphids, Spider Mites, Leaf Miners Diseases: Powdery Mildew, Fusarium, Botrytis; it's recommended to treat preventively against Botrytis one week after planting.

### **Finishing Key Tips**

We recommend giving the plants a short-day treatment for 3 to 4 weeks after transplant for the best uniformity and quality crop. After the shortday treatment, plants can be grown in long days. Celosia makes a taproot and is sensitive to root damage, which will result in early bud formation, deformed flowers and less uniformity. Therefore, plant before the plugs get rootbound. Maintain a constantly moist media, especially for the first 2 weeks after transplanting, to prevent premature flowering. Before flower development, temperatures 65-75°F (day) 63-65°F (night) are recommended. Better flower quality is achieved if greenhouse temperatures are lowered as flowers develop. Not recommended for pinch.

#### Harvest

Harvest stems as crest is almost completely full.

### Post Harvest

Strip 50-75% foliage. Use distilled water; no need for hydration or holding solutions. Avoid cold storage if possible.

#### Vase Life

7-14 days

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











PanAmerican Seed Co. 622 Town Road,West Chicago, Illinois, USA, 60185 +1 800-231-7065 PanAmSeed.com

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