

## Delphinium Blue Donna

(*Delphinium x belladonna*)

Cut Flowers Culture (revised 10/03/24)

Blue Donna is great for producing deep blue flowers during the warmer periods of growing.

### General Information

Cultivation Type	Usage	Stem Length	Timing Group
Greenhouse, Tunnel, Field grown	Line	32-40 in. (81-102 cm)	N/A

### 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
RAW	288	1	6-8	7-10	5.8-6.2 pH 0.75 mmhos/cm	Yes

### Plug Production

	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4
<b>Moisture</b>	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2-3	Level 2
<b>Temperature</b>	68-72°F (20-22°C)	65-68°F (18-20°C)	65-68°F (18-20°C)	60-65°F (16-18°C)
<b>Light</b>	Optional	2,000-2,500 f.c. (21,500-26,900 Lux)	6-8 mol·m <sup>-2</sup> ·d <sup>-1</sup> 2,000-2,500 f.c. (21,500-26,900 Lux)	6-8 mol·m <sup>-2</sup> ·d <sup>-1</sup> 4,000-5,000 f.c. (43,100-53,800 Lux)
<b>Fertiliser</b>	Less than 100 ppm N (Less than 0.7 EC)	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)

### Growing on to Finish

Target Media pH/EC (1:2)	Fertiliser	Daylength
5.8-6.5 pH 1.0-1.3 mmhos/cm	100 to 175 ppm N (0.7 to 1.2 EC)	Facultative Long Day

### Crop Scheduling

Cultivation Type	Support	Temperature	Density	Crop Time
Greenhouse	Recommended	17-20°C/63-68°F (day) 12-14°C/53-58°F (night)	1-2 plants/ft <sup>2</sup> (11-22 plants/m <sup>2</sup> )	12-15 weeks
Field grown	Recommended	17-20°C/63-68°F (day) 12-14°C/53-58°F (night)	1-2 plants/ft <sup>2</sup> (11-22 plants/m <sup>2</sup> )	12-15 weeks

### Finishing Key Tips

Planting density: Annual greenhouse production = 12 to 16 plants/m<sup>2</sup>. Annual field production = 16 to 18 plants/m<sup>2</sup>. Perennial field production = 9 plants/m<sup>2</sup>. Do not pinch. Fertilise frequently with well-balanced fertiliser. Avoid ratio N:K larger than 2. Irrigation: overhead only first 4 to 6 weeks, then use drip. Needs medium to high irrigation, but keep plants dry and low RH. Prefers high light conditions. Cut stems 6 in. (15 cm) above ground to prevent Root Rot. Harvest when 25 to 30% of flowers are open. For annual cycle: from early transplant (January/February); first harvest after 12 to 15 weeks; then next 1 or 2 harvests 5 to 6 weeks later. Second and third harvests give best quality stems.

### Harvest

Harvest stems when 75-80% of the florets have opened.

## Post Harvest

Delphinium are highly sensitive to ethylene; it is recommended to treat with an ethylene-inhibiting product immediately after harvest. Hydrate and store in a cooler at 1-3°C (34-38°F) in a commercial floral holding solution at the manufacturer's recommended rate.

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

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Blue Donna



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