



KEYS TO FINISHING YOUR TUBEROUS BEGONIAS



1. PLANTING

- Before removing liners from the cells some type of dislodging is strongly recommended.
- When planting baskets it is important to arrange the plants with the largest leaf facing outward, to ensure proper flower placement and growth habit.

2. TEMPERATURE

- 68 F – 72 F for actively growing plants.
- No lower than 60 F for holding plants.
- Colder temperatures can force dormancy.

3. LIGHTING

- Best in moderate light levels.
- Must receive long days to avoid dormancy until early March in most areas. (This can be achieved by extending the day length to 14+ hours or by providing night interruption lighting.)

4. WATERING

- It's crucial not to over water begonias early on.
- Do not saturate soil at any point, especially before good root development.
- Never water soil any deeper than the roots have developed in the pot. Always allow water to "cycle". (Allowing soil to dry down before watering, with out causing drought stress.)
- On sunny days Begonias should be watered early in the day. This is done to avoid getting leaf burn, caused by overhead watering on hot leaves.

5. NUTRITION

- Maintain a pH between 5.5 - 6.0.
- Tuberous Begonias are not "heavy feeders". Constant feed with a well-balanced fertilizer at 75 ppm N, adjust as needed to maintain an EC between 0.6 - 0.8. Do not exceed an EC of 1.0

6. GROWTH REGULATORS

- 150 ppm of Cycocel can be used to control height on all Tuberous Begonias, except Dragon Wings. Use 3 - 5 ppm of Bonzi on Dragon Wings, or a soft pinch can be used.
- The first application should normally be applied about 3 weeks after transplant. This allows time for the plant to form a decent root system and start to push some top growth. It may be necessary on more vigorous varieties to spray a second application near the end of the crop time, to ensure good height control.