

Production Notes for Sun Parasol® plants.

USE: Ideal as a Patio, Hanging, Bedding and Balcony plant. Sun Parasol is extremely versatile in its use.

GROWTH HABIT: All Sun Parasol plants are natural climbers.

FLOWERING HABIT: Flowering on every third leaf pair, measured from the base or from the previous flower. The bud is aborted in unfavourable conditions.

Tip: remove the shoot above the bud to prevent bud abortion.

PLANT SHAPE: All kinds of trellises are possible, as are hanging pots and pots without a climbing support.

CULTIVATION TIMETABLE: Three months in a small pot of 100 - 125mm, up to 9 months in a large pot of 200 - 300mm.

SUPPORT SYSTEM: All types are possible. Vertical tying is less labour-intensive.

Horizontal tying on branches generally produces short flowering shoots. Continuous tying is recommended.

POTTING MIX: Soil must be sufficiently free-draining while maintaining moisture, with a low pH of 4.0 - 5.5.

CLIMATE: The plant likes warmth and will grow slowly in cold conditions. A reasonable heating temperature is 16 - 20°C. The Giant group is the most responsive to warm temperatures, growing quickly in summer and slowly in winter. In the winter the temperature should preferably not drop below 10°C and the plant should not be kept too moist.

LIGHT: The Giant group needs high light in the summer and winter. The Original and Pretty group, needs high light in the winter, but in the summer bud abortion can occur in high light so some partial shade is best.

IRRIGATION: Water sparingly in winter to prevent root rot in spring. Water sufficiently in summer to encourage growth, but keep drier during the flowering period to prevent long shoots from developing. If the plant is too dry, it will drop its leaves; if it is too wet, root rot will occur or growth will be too rapid.

FERTILISER: Moderate fertility is required with 200ppm of constant liquid feed using a complete fertiliser.

PINCHING: Pinching is recommended to improve branching. Wait until the plants are fairly well-rooted before pinching.

DISEASES: The main disease infections for Mandevilla, which have been known to infect the plant, are Fusarium, Cercospora, Phytophthora and Colletotrichum. Please contact your chemical supplier for up to date control methods should this be a problem for you.



Fusarium



Cercospora

PESTS: Red Spider Mite, Mealy Bug, Aphids and Fungus Gnat + Shore Flies can be a problem. Please contact your chemical supplier for up to date recommendations to treat these pest should they occur.



Red Spider Mite



Mealy Bug

TRANSPORT: Must be well packed as the flowers are damaged by rubbing with its neighbour or against anything.

Keep in mind there is no guarantee that this information will always work, climatic conditions will have an effect in any environment. Again, this information and the related advices of this web site are solely based on past experience and expertise and no other, and in no case shall be constructed to provide a guarantee that certain particular purpose or results will be achieved.