**Picante™, Fuego™, Salsa™**

**SALVIA SPLAENDENS**

**Minimum Germination Rate:** 90%

**Seed Product Form:** Raw

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**FLOWERING**

*Time frame when plants are receptive to flower initiation: Salsa: days 18 – 21; Picante: days 21 – 24; 3 – 5 leaves are present.*

*Flowering Type: Salsa is a day-neutral plant. Picante is a facultative long-day plant – long days enhance flowering.*

*Specific Flowering Mechanism: Daylength triggers flowering. Warm temperatures will enhance flowering.*

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**PLUG CULTURE**

*Germination: Optimum conditions for seedling development that begins the day the crop is sown until cotyledon expansion. Expect radicle emergence in 4 – 5 days.*

*Cover: Seeds may be covered with a thin layer of coarse vermiculite to maintain moisture levels.*

*Media: • pH: 6.0 – 6.2 • EC: 0.5

*Light: Light is not necessary for germination. If utilizing a chamber, providing a light source of 10 – 100 foot candles (100 – 1,000 lux) will improve germination and reduce stretch compared to seed germinated in the dark.*

*Moisture: Saturated (5) for days 0 – 4 or until radicle emergence. On days 5 – 14 reduce moisture to moist (3). Beginning day 15 reduce further to medium (2).*

*Humidity: 100% until radicle emergence then reduce to 40%.*

*Dehumidify: Provide horizontal airflow to aid in drying down the media through evapotranspiration, allowing better penetration of oxygen to the roots.*

*Temperature: 75° – 78°F (22° – 23°C) until radicle emergence. Reduce to 65° – 68°F (18° – 20°C) as seedlings mature.*

*Plug Bulking: Optimum conditions during the vegetative period, beginning at cotyledon expansion, needed for the root to reach the edge of the plug cell. Avoid premature flowering in the plug stages. Plants will not size up properly after transplanted if budded in the plug tray. In troubleshooting plug culture, downward cupping of the leaves indicates that the media is too dry and/or EC levels are too high; or temperatures are too cool.*

*Media: • pH: 6.0 – 6.2 • EC: 0.75 – 1.2 Salvia is very sensitive to high salts and levels should be monitored to avoid leaf drop.*

*Light: Provide 2,500 – 3,000 (25,000 – 30,000 lux). Under low light conditions, supplemental lighting will reduce stretching.*

*Temperature: 55° – 60°F (13° – 16°C) nights; 70° – 75°F (21° – 24°) days.*

*Average Daily Temperature (ADT): 67°F (19°C)*

*Moisture: Alternate between moisture levels wet (4) and medium (2). Allow media to approach level (2) before re-saturating to level (4).*

*Humidity: 40 – 70%*

*Dehumidify: Provide horizontal airflow to aid in drying down the media through evapotranspiration, allowing better penetration of oxygen to the roots.*

*Fertilizers: Salvia is responsive to DIF treatments, B-Nine (daminozide), A-Rest (ancymidol), Bonzi (paclobutrazol), Sumagic (uniconazol) or B-Nine/Cycocel (chlorormequat chloride) tank mix.*

**Common Pests:** Thrips, Aphids, Whitefly and Spider Mite

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**PRODUCT USE**

| Packs, pots, containers, mass plantings |
|---|---|
| **GARDEN SPECIFICATIONS** |
| **Light:** Partial to full sun | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 10 | **AHS Heat Zone:** 12 – 1 |

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**GROWING ON**

*Transplant Ready: 5 – 6 weeks from sow in a ‘288’ tray.*

*Finish Bulking/Flower Initiation: Optimum conditions during the vegetative period, beginning at transplant, needed for the root to reach the edge of the container AND to make the plant receptive to flower initiation.*

*Media: • pH: 6.2 – 6.5 • EC: 0.75 – 1.0 Salvia is sensitive to high salts and levels should be monitored to avoid leaf drop.*

*Light: Provide 3,000 – 3,500 foot candles (30,000 – 35,000 lux). Under low light conditions, supplemental lighting will reduce stretching.*

*Temperature: 55° – 60°F (13° – 16°C) nights; 70° – 75°F (21° – 24°) days.*

**PRODUCT USE**

| Packs, pots, containers, mass plantings |
|---|---|
| **GARDEN SPECIFICATIONS** |
| **Light:** Partial to full sun | **USDA Hardiness Zone:** 10 | **AHS Heat Zone:** 12 – 1 |

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**SALVIA SCHEDULING IN WEEKS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Picante</strong></th>
<th><strong>Fuego</strong></th>
<th><strong>Salsa</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total crop time</strong></td>
<td>10 – 11</td>
<td>9 – 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>’288’ plug crop time</strong></td>
<td>5 – 6</td>
<td>5 – 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transplant to finish crop time</strong></td>
<td>5 – 6</td>
<td>4 – 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Packs</strong></td>
<td>6 – 7</td>
<td>5 – 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4” crop</strong></td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: These suggestions are only guidelines and may have to be altered to meet individual grower’s needs. Check all chemical labels to verify registration for use in your region.