

# Astilbe arendsii Showstar®

Item no.: B7261P

## Crop Time

Spring: 24 - 28 weeks

## Height

35cm

## Exposure

Sun - Shade

## Seed Form

BeGreen Pelleting

## Hardiness Zone

4-8

## Best Uses

Bedding, Cutflower, Landscape

## Culture guide

### Usage

Plants for the border, pot and container plants, cut flowers

### Sow time

February-June for green pots June-July for flowering in pots the following year

### Sowing method

3-5 seeds per plug

## **Germination**

14-21 days at 72-77 °F (22-25 °C), cover seed lightly and keep very moist.

## **Growing on**

Transplant plugs 10-14 weeks after sowing

## **Media**

Use a well-drained, growing perennial substrate with 10-20 % clay, 0-15 % organic parts (e.g. bark, wood fibres), 1-1.5 kg/m<sup>3</sup> complete balanced fertilizer, 3-4 kg/m<sup>3</sup> slow release fertilizer (3-9 months), iron-chelate, micronutrients, pH: 5.5-6.0. Field: humus soils with good drainage and good nutrition levels. Standard fertilization: 80 g/m<sup>2</sup> slow release fertilizer. Sand soils are not suitable.

## **Temperature**

Grow at 15-18 °C or outdoors. After development of the roots decrease the temperature to 12-15 °C. In winter indoors frost free at 3-5 °C or outdoors. Outdoor fleece cover needed and plants need to be protected against direct sunlight. For the vernalisation 12 weeks at temperature of 5 °C are required. At mid December the plants start to grow for 8-10 weeks at 15-18 °C.

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Stage I Starts with the radicle breaking through the testa. The roots are touching the medium. Ends with fully developed cotyledons.

Stage II Starts from fully developed cotyledons. Ends with the fully developed true leaf or true leaf pair.

Stage III Starts from the fully developed true leaf or true leaf pair and ends with 80% of the young plants being marketable.

Stage IV All young plants are ready for sale and in the process of being hardened off. This stage lasts about 7 days.

The cultural recommendations are based on results from trials conducted under Central European conditions. Different conditions in other parts of the world may lead to deviations in results achieved.