Hibiscus (Rose Mallow)

72ct Plug

Container:
Premium 2 Gallon Pot
Finish:
10-12 weeks
When To Plant:
Early to mid summer

Grade #1 Bare Root

Container:
Premium 3 Gallon Pot
Finish:
8-10 weeks
When To Plant:
Spring to late spring

Growing Temperature:

65-72° F day and night (rooting out) then warmer

EC Level:

2.5-3.5 pour through method

Vernalization:

Not required.

Potting and Timing:

Bareroot plants can be trimmed to a 3-4" radius to fit the pot if necessary.

72s should be planted in 1 or 2 gallon containers and bareroot will need to go into 2 or 3 gallon containers.

Hibiscus can be pinched to encourage branching. Soft pinch the shoots when they are 6-8" long, leaving 4-6 leaves on each branch. Allow at least 6 weeks from pinching until the desired bloom date.

Planting Level:

Crown should be at or just above soil level.

Lighting:

High light is required for growth. Dark foliage varieties need direct sunlight to achieve color. It is recommended to grow these outdoors.

Soil pH:

5.5-6.2

Fertility:

Keep plants well-watered and well-fed. 150-200 ppm N will encourage vigorous growth.

Pests and Diseases:

Aphids, caterpillars, Japanese beetles, mealybugs, scale, spider mites, thrips, and whitefilies are often observed on Hibiscus.

Botrytis, Leaf spots, Alternaria and Cercospora, Myrothecium, Phytophora, Pseudomonas, and rust.

Moisture:

Consistent soil moisture is important. Never allow the plants to wilt or lower leaf loss, bud abortion and reduced quality characteristics will result.

Moist to moderate moisture requirements.

PGRs/Pinching:

PGRs: Spray B-Nine at 3750 ppm and Cycocel at 1000 ppm or Sumagic alone at 5-7.5 ppm. For bareroot, a drench of 0.25 Sumagic may be used on more vigorous varieties, followed up by PGR sprays as needed. For best results begin PGR applications about 5-7 days following a pinch (look for new shoot growth first), use at 7 day intervals if additional control is needed.

Grower Tips:

If early season forcing is desired then it is recommended to plant 72ct plugs into 2-3 gallon pots in mid summer for sales the following spring. Warm temperatures of 68-75° F and supplemental lighting are required to force Hibiscus. Plants flower in 12-14 weeks at 70° F. A trick for getting bare root (or overwintered plants) to emerge faster in spring is to set them down pot-tight and cover loosely with a sheet of clear poly. As soon as shoots begin to emerge the poly should be taken off. This can help speed up emergence by 1-2 weeks.

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