



Kiwi
Dianthus barbatus
Technical Guide

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BARBATUS_COLLECTION
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#KIWILOVERS

Kiwis are a perennial plant. It is a lovely variety of the *Dianthus* species. Having stems of 70 to 90 cm high, with a 8 - 11 cm head flower diameter.

It has a production cycle of 10 to 12 weeks (*under tropical conditions*). It can vary according to weather conditions, and sowing latitude. It grows better in deep, organically rich and well drained soils; the hydroponic alternative is a very viable one.

Production

Planting density: 20 to 24 plants per square meter. Rich well drained, with good aeration, not much humidity, and a PH between 5.8 and 6.5 organic soils are required.

Hydroponic farming is also possible as long as there is an appropriate use and quality of the substrate used, and a well management.

It is in this first stage that the plant presents a higher demand on nitrogen, thus, it is recommended to do applications of calcium nitrate CN (NO₃) 2 per 200 ppm. Stringing of 2 to 3 beds should be used to guide the stems along the growth of the plant. Between week 6-7 or/and after reaching a height of 10 cm or 8 pairs of leaves well developed, the pinch should be done on the third internode or 3 pairs of leaves removing the apical growth meristem.

Once the plant has formed body; stems begin to come out. To obtain better results and better quality; it is important to make a selection leaving 5 to 7 (*depending on the quality and market*) stems in the plant, it is this moment when the plant requires more and better light exposure, this to assure good stem development and height.

The cycle of *Dianthus Barbatus* is between 10 to 12 weeks (*tropical conditions*) according to weather conditions in the area where it is being grown.

In the north hemisphere the cycle could change according to each season of the year; basically 8 weeks faster than carnations.



Mother plants and harvests of cuttings of the Dianthus Barbatus



Rooting cuttings 15 -18 days



Fertilization

The *Dianthus Barbatus* specie presents an extremely high demand of nitrogen in the first fenologic stage; nevertheless an excess of nitrogen means more sensibility to sicknesses and a increase of shoots. Nitrogen applications should be done twice per week at a dosage of 180 to 220ppm based on nitrates.

At the first stages of growth, Phosphorus is also important, it potentiates the growth of the stem and roots. Ammonium phosphate is also recommended to add N (18-46-0)

To enhance the aspect of the Dianthus and to increase the vigor of the plant, Potassium (enzyme activator) is recommended at a dosage of 22 ppm.

Boron, essential for normal plant growth, promotes appropriate cell division, cell elongation, cellular wall strength, pollination and flowering. The frequency of application should be watched since it is a very residual element. Dosage 1.5-2.0 ppm



Distribution planting



[Click Here to see
Kiwi Mellow cool at field](#)

Kiwi Mellow Cool Production



[Click Here to see
Kiwi Mellow at field](#)

Kiwi Mellow Production



Macronutrients

Grown plants:

Apply fertilizer based on calcium at 100 ppm, once or twice per week. *Dianthus Barbatous* plants require an adequate amount of calcium in the fertilization program.

Plants which have just formed their roots:

Apply an average of K in a 200 ppm dosage, it should be applied through irrigation. A good level of potassium should enhance the aspect and vigor of the plant.

Micronutrients

Most required micronutrients by *Dianthus Barbatous* are: **iron, zinc, copper, magnesium, molybdenum, and boron**. In case they are need, they should be applied via leaf, taking advantage of any phytosanitary at approximately 80 ppm.



Cultural Recommendation

Preventive programs such as:

Fusarium

(*Fusarium oxysporum* F. sp. *Dianthi*)

Produces important damage that goes up from the bottom to the top, it is usually located close to the stem base. At the beginning roots remain intact, but later on they rotten, causing the neck to break as the plant is removed, leaving part of the roots in the soil. It is controlled with irrigation, by watering the plant base extremely well, with fungicide solved or sprayed.

Miners

(*psedonapomyza dianthicola*)

its larvae form leaf mines in the leaves, producing weakness and commercial depreciation of the carnations. They can also be controlled by applying different systematic pesticides.

Trips

(*Frankliniella occidentalis*)

because of tiny size, they enter the flower buds easily, they feed (from petals and pollen) triggering discolorations in the edges of the petals. They can be controlled by applying different systematic pesticides.

"The information contained in this document provides general guidelines crop without a prescription, so if recommends make adjustments necessary according to climatic conditions, characteristics and practices of each farm."

Production cycle





SALES contact.

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