

Helianthus Sunsation®

Helianthus annuus F1

Discover the power of Sunsation sunflowers

- F1 hybrid, compact and uniform plants
- Large, pollenfree, long-lasting flowers
- Versatile, for indoor and outdoor use
- Well-branching, multi-flowering when pinched



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evanthia



Discover the power of **Helianthus Sunsation®**, the rich flowering pot plant series for home and garden. The pollen-free flowers remain beautiful for a long time and pop up, one after the other. This colourful, compact F1 sunflower series can be grown in a short period of time. Sunsation® varieties give you plenty of flexibility, as they can be grown in 9 to 25 cm pots. By pinching the Sunsation® varieties, you get a well-branching plant structure and several large flowers that bloom simultaneously, for even more sunshine. Ask our crop advisors for guidance.

Plant profile

Genus & species:	Helianthus annuus F1	Life cycle:	Annual
Family:	Asteraceae.	Plant habit:	Compact
Common name:	Sunflower	Finished plant height:	35-45 cm in 12-13 cm pots
Series:	Sunsation®	Usage:	Indoors and outdoors



Sunsation® Flame

- An eye-catching red/yellow flamed bicour
- Ideal for heated summer promotions
- Provides a colourful accent in autumn - as an Indian Summer favourite



Sunsation® Yellow

The warm yellow variety of the uniform Sunsation® series



Sunsation® Yellow Spirit

Even more uniformity and compactness
Very short flowering window - ideal for large sales actions
Beautiful deep yellow flowers

* From Single to Multi flower in just one pinch



Helianthus annuus F1 — Sunsation® Sunflower

Bedding / Pot culture

Culture location:	greenhouse / open field
Sowing method	TP / DS
Sowing season	mid winter to mid summer
Germ temp.	21-24°C (70-75°F)
Growing temp.	15-21°C (59-70°F)

Plug crop time

2,5-3 wks (late spring)

Crop duration

10 weeks from sowing - late spring and summer

12 weeks when pinched.

Seed requirement

1200 seeds for 1000 plants

Pests/diseases

Aphids, thrips, whitefly, leaf miners, downy mildew. After potting a treatment (Rizolex) against root diseases is advised. Thrips affecting young flower buds are the main cause of malformed flowers.

Fertilization (f)

Moderate requirement. Sunflowers are sensitive to boron deficiency. Supplementation may be necessary. Further: see cultivation tip.

Cultivation tips

- Higher EC levels have a positive effect on plant compactness. An EC level of 3 causes a stronger plant reaction than a higher potassium or sulfate level. This would also reduce the yellowing of the leaves.
- Root penetration in the underground must be avoided as much as possible.

Sowing details

Direct sowing (DS):

(Multi-) sowing in 13 cm (5 in.) and larger pots is possible, resulting in vigorous plant growth.

Pre-sow and transplant (TP):

soil: sterile sowing mix, pH 5,5-6,5 and 2.0 EC in the soil

sow: 1 seed per large (and preferably deep) plug (200 tray)

cover: lightly cover with sand

Days 1 - 4

(m) moist

(t) 21-24°C (70-75°F)

(l) optional

(f) < 100 ppm N, < 0.7 EC

Days 5 - 6

(m) normal to moist

(t) 20-21°C (68-64°F)

(l) 27.000 lux (2500 fc)

(f) < 100 ppm N, < 0.7 EC

Days 7 - 9

(m) normal

(t) 16-22°C (61-72°F)

(l) 54.000 lux (5000 fc)

(f) 50-75 ppm N, < 0,7 EC

Days 10 - 16

Transplant at 2 true leaf stage.

(m) normal to dry

(t) 16-18°C (60-65°F)

(l) 43.000-54.000 lux (4000-5000 fc)

(f) 175-225 ppm N, 1,2-1,5 EC

Notes

- Until late winter (NL week 9) additional light is applied (16 hours) for optimum result.
- Short day culture (11,5 h/day) means smaller flowers. Long days after a short day period results in larger flowers. DIF is optional. This results in a shorter crop time and more uniformity in flowering.

Growing on

Soil/media

pH 5,5-6,5 and 1.2 EC

Pinching

Pinching is a great option and will result in a well-branching multi-flowering plant. Crop time will take 2 weeks extra.

Plants per pot

1 plug per 12-13 cm (5 in.) pot

3 plugs per 15 cm (6 in.) pot

Plant density (garden)

Pot size 12-13 cm: 10-14 plants per m², depending on growing method and time of year.

Moisture (m)

Moderate requirement/quite dry especially 2-3 weeks after potting. Avoid leaf burn caused by overhead irrigation and excessive sun.

Temperature (t)

Optimum temperature is 15-18°C (59-64 °F) at night and 18-21°C (64-70°F) at daytime, with a soil temp. of 18°C (64°F). Low soil temp. results in poor root growth and malformed flowers. Ventilate when temp. is over 20°C (68°F).

Light (l)

High light/full sun. Short day conditions can be applied 5 weeks after sowing for 11,5 hours/day and 13 hours/night. See the note below.

PGR

- Limited requirement. Apply PGR (e.g. 2-4 gr Alar 64/l) when the first true leaf pair is fully developed. Bonzi can be applied in the final stage. PGR's on open flowers are not recommended.

This information is for general guidance only, and is in some cases specific for North European conditions. No guarantee is given for the result of the crop, nor is liability accepted for the consequences of applying the indications given.

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Pinching Sunsation® Sunflowers An easy way to get a multi-flowering Sunsation®

Why we pinch

- Better basal branching
- A lot more flowers
- Longer shelf life
- Compact & bushy plant
that just looks stunning!



Without pinching



After pinching

Time to pinch

After approximately 6 to 7 weeks the Sunsation® young plants have 4 leaf pairs. This is the best time to pinch.



How to pinch

Pinch Sunsation® manually to avoid leaf damage. Pinch out the top of the main stem right above the 4th leaf pair. This way you will force the plant to grow 3 to 4 new stems from the leaf nodes below the pinch.



Before pinching



After pinching



Result

*Conclusions based on intensive research by In Holland University of applied sciences & breeding company Evanthia. Confirmed by the practical experiences of the Dutch-based growers of the Sunsation® Sunflower Partnership.