Viola cornuta F1 **Grandissimo**

The next big thing in Viola! Grandissimo is the perfect start to the Viola season, even if the warmth of late Summer is still in the air. Easy-to-grow, easy to sell and a great performer for the consumer, Grandissimo is a welcome addition to the late Summer and early Autumn market.

- Heat tolerant, giant flowered Viola
- Fills the pot easily, even under heat stress where standard varieties suffer
- Perfect to programme together with Power
- Autumn performer – great choice to start the season
- Larger flowers than standard Viola = lots more colour!
- Ideal for landscape – an explosion of colour and an economical alternative to trailing Pansies
- Versatile – perfect for packs, pots, baskets and mixed containers
- 9 bright colours

Annual	Bedding Plant
Bedding + mixed combo	Half shade + full sun
Mounding	900/gram
15 cm	Normal
20 cm	10.5 cm

Culture Guide

Plug Culture

Stage 1 (days 1-7) Sow pansy seed in a well-aerated plug mix with a pH between 5.5 and 5.8, and cover lightly with a medium or coarse vermiculite. After sowing, water the plug flats well and maintain a soil temperature of 18 C When using a germination chamber maintain 100 % relative humidity and remove plug trays when the seed coat is cracked.

Stage 2 (days 7-14) Maintain temperatures at 18°C, if possible, and provide good air flow. Light levels should be maintained up to 32,000 lux, without causing heat or water stress. When seedlings begin to appear in the tray, lightly fertilize with 75 ppm of N from a well-balanced fertilizer containing trace element. After the initial feed, begin fertilizing with 100 ppm of N. A Calcium nitrate-based fertilizer works well to build strong compact plants.

Stage 3 (days 15-25) Maintain soil pH between 5.5 and 5.8. and maitain an EC of 0.8-1.0 (1:2 slurry). Ideally, seedlings should be given high light levels to reduce stretching. If plant height control is needed, B Nine (Daminozide) and Cycocel are effective.

Stage 4 (days 26-30) Plug flats are approaching market size, before shipping plugs in a box apply PGR when needed to control stretching.Reduce fertilizer to tone the plants and prepare them for transplanting. Never delay transplanting into pot.

Pack & Pot Culture

Media Transplant plugs into a sterile well-aerated soil mix with a pH between 5.5 and 5.8 and an EC <0.6 (1:2 slurry).

Transplanting Transplant one plug in a 10 cm pot or 3-5 plugs in a 12-15 cm pot or hanging basket. Avoid planting the plugs too deep to prevent stem rot.

Sakata Ornamentals Europe
Odensevej 82, 5290 Marslev, Denmark, +45 63906490, fax. +45 63906499
marcom@sakata.eu, www.sakataornamentals.eu

Temperature	Un-heated house: For the first two weeks after potting, keep 15-18°C to stimulate root growth. Then, maintain temperatures as cool as possible. Over-Winter under frost free conditions (minimum temperature 3-5°C). Forcing at 10-12°C.
Fertilizer	Fertilize with 150-200 ppm of N from a well-balanced fertilizer to ensure a healthy start. Violas and pansies are sensitive to boron deficiency characterized by deep green foliage, crinkled foliage and tip abortion. It is recommended to supply 0.25 of boron at each watering. Be sure to check the boron level in your water supply to avoid oversupplying this micro-element.
Lighting	Provide high light, up to 75,000 lux, and shade only to control high temperatures.
Growth regulators	B-Nine (daminozide), Cycocel, Bonzi can be used as growth regulator, also dry cultivation when roots are well established will help to control planthabit and flowerstem length.
Pests & diseases	Major root diseases include Pythium, Phytopthora and Thielaviopsis. Thielaviopsis or Black Root Rot is often a problem early in the season when temperatures are high. Research has shown that the disease is checked at a pH of 5.5 or lower.
Crop schedule	Crop time in cool northern regions: Un-heated house, 22-26 weeks (sowing September - sales March). Heated house: 11-13 weeks (sowing December/January - sales March/April or sowing July - sales September/October). Crop time in warm southern regions: 11-13 weeks (sowing July/August - sales October). In late Summer under high light and warm temperature conditions, reduce crop time by 1-2 weeks.

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