

Easy Wave™ Series Petunia

NEW! The Easy Choice for Growers, Retailers & Consumers!

- Easier to flower under short days plus easier to control on the bench.
- Sell **Easy Wave™** petunias in packs earlier in the season.
- More mounded, spreading habit than low-growing **Wave™** varieties.
- High-impact plants with minimal maintenance requirements.
- Well-suited to packs and 4-in. (10-cm) pots...great in the NEW! Ride The Wave® Premium Pink Pack.
- Makes an excellent hanging basket, flowering over the entire, mounded plant.
- Excellent alternative to traditional petunias.

Easy Wave Colors:

Cherry ('PAS91421')

Pink ('PAS3189')

Shell Pink ('PAS93537')

White ('PAS223721')

P. x hybrida

Seed Count (Pelleted): 33,000 S./oz.
(1,200 S./g)

Plug Production

Note: Because their spreading habit begins after transplanting, **Easy Wave** plugs can be produced like other petunia plugs.

Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free seedling medium with a pH of 5.5 to 6.0 and EC about 0.75 mmhos/cm (1:2 extraction).

Sowing

Covering **Easy Wave** seed is not recommended. However, a light covering of vermiculite is beneficial if humidity cannot be controlled during germination. Water adequately after sowing to completely dissolve the pellet.

Temperature

Germination: 72° to 76°F (22° to 24°C)

Cotyledon stage: 68° to 75°F (20° to 24°C)

True leaves: 65° to 70°F (18° to 21°C)

Hold plugs: 60° to 65°F (16° to 18°C)

Light

Lighting is optional during Stage 1.

After germination: 1,000 to 2,500 f.c. (10,000 to 30,000 Lux)

Seedling maturity: Up to 5,000 f.c. (54,000 Lux) if temperature can be controlled

Humidity

Maintain 100% relative humidity (RH) until cotyledons emerge. RH can be reduced gradually to approximately 50% as plugs mature.

Soil Moisture

Keep soil very wet during Stage 1 for optimal germination.

Fertilizer

At radicle emergence: 50 ppm N from low phosphorous-nitrate form fertilizers.

As cotyledons expand: Increase to 100 to 150 ppm N.

If growth is slow: 20-10-20 with every other fertilization.

Maintain medium EC between 1.0 and 1.5 mmhos/cm (1:2 extraction).

Growth Regulators

Control **Easy Wave** plug growth first by environment, nutrition and irrigation management, then with chemical plant growth regulators if needed. Minimize ammonium-form nitrogen fertilizer to avoid seedling elongation. Temperature differential (DIF) can also be used to minimize height. Test all chemical plant regulators first.

B-Nine: 1 to 2 applications at 5,000 ppm (0.79 oz./gal or 5.9 g/l) as a spray. The first application should be made when plugs have 2 to 3 true leaves. A second application can be made 7 days later. This treatment can improve basal branching of mature plants.

Growing On to Finish

Container Size

1801 flats & Ride The Wave Pink Packs:

1 plant per cell

4-in. (10-cm) pots: 1 plant per pot

6-in. (15-cm) pots: 1-3 plants per pot

10-in. (25-cm) baskets: 3-4 plants per basket

Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium with a pH of 5.5 to 6.2 and a medium initial nutrient charge.

Temperature

Nights: 55° to 65°F (13° to 18°C)

Days: 65° to 75°F (18° to 24°C)

If properly acclimated, **Easy Wave** petunias can tolerate temperatures several degrees below freezing.

Light

Keep light levels as high as possible while maintaining moderate temperatures.

Fertilizer

Easy Wave petunias require more fertilizer than is usually recommended for petunias. For best results, apply a balanced fertilizer with 200 to 300 ppm N with every other irrigation.

Growth Regulators

Use 4 applications of B-Nine at 5,000 ppm (0.79 oz./gal or 5.9 g/l) starting 7 days after transplant and every 7 to 10 days after that. This regimen has been tested and proven effective for **Easy Wave** petunias at Elburn, Illinois. B-Nine also improves branching, but may delay flowering by 4 to 7 days. If additional PGR is needed, a Bonzi spray at 30 ppm will help hold the finished crop.

A general guideline is to use the same (or similar) growth regulator program for **Easy Wave** petunias as you use for your standard petunias.

Note: Be sure to check local regulations regarding the use of plant growth regulators.

Photoperiod

Easy Wave petunias are less sensitive to daylength than **Wave** petunias. Although **Easy Wave** Shell Pink, White and Cherry can flower under 10-hour short days if provided with high light, flowering will be about 2 weeks later than under 12-hour daylength. Pink requires daylength greater than 12 hours for fastest flowering.

When producing **Easy Wave** petunias early in the year when days are short, decrease crop times by using supplemental lighting after transplanting. Day extension or night break lighting are acceptable.

Crop Scheduling

Sow to transplant (392-cell plug): 4 to 5 weeks

Transplant to flower: 5 to 7 weeks

Total Crop Time:

Spring:

1801 flats, Ride The Wave	1 plant per cell	10-12
Pink Pack		weeks
4-in. (10-cm) pot	1 plant per pot	10-12
		weeks
6-in. (15 -cm) pot	2-3 plants per	10-12
	pot	weeks
10-in. (25-cm) basket	3-4 plants per	10-13
	basket	weeks

Common Problems

No major problems will occur if good cultural and IPM practices are used.

Home Gardener “Green Thumb” Tips

Choose a full sun location for **Easy Wave** petunias – at least 6 hours of direct sunlight is best. For best results, feed with an all-purpose fertilizer every couple of weeks, especially when grown in containers. Apply fertilizer at the recommended package rates.

Space 12 in. (30 cm) apart in the garden. Plants will spread 2.5 to 3 ft. (75 to 90 cm) and grow 8 to 12 in. (20 to 30 cm) tall.

PanAmerican Seed

PanAmerican Seed Co.
622 Town Road, West Chicago, Illinois, USA 60185-2698
630 231-1400 Fax: 630 231-3609 PanAmSeed.com

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