

CULTURE ADVICE

Begonia boliviensis

- Description:** 'Bonfire' is a sun-loving, drought-tolerant hanging begonia. The series is characterized by a compact, upright growth when cultivated in pots, and is ideal for close setting. All summer long the plants are densely set with single, cup-shaped flowers above a longish, rich green foliage. 'Bonfire' can be used for many applications.
- Potting:** 11/12 cm pot or directly in hanging basket vessels; calendar weeks 8 to 12
- Substrate:** Clayey, structurally stable substrate of type 2; pH 5.5 - 6.5
- Fertilization:** Weekly liquid fertilization with a 0.2 % complete fertilizer, medium water demand
- Temperature:** 12 to 18°C
No specific temperature requirements so that cultivation is easily controllable.
- Light:** Cultivate in full light, no shadow!
- Flowering:** From 18th week depending on light conditions (if no extra light is used).
- Growth regulators:** Growth regulation is not necessary.
- Pinching:** Pinching is not absolutely necessary. However, if branching is not satisfactory, some trimming or shaping is recommended to get a better plant build-up. 1 to 2 weeks after potting or immediately in case of a suitable young plant size.
- Diseases / pest:** Botrytis, thrips (vector for TOSPO viruses); take hygenic measures!

Water balance is of importance; the plants must not stand too wet, danger of botrytis, damage to roots and irregular plant build-up are the consequences.

Updated: 08/09/2009