## Dianthus Interspecific F1 Chiba

| **Life cycle** | Hardy annual/perennial |
| **Family/origin** | Caryophyllaceae |
| **Popular uses** | Outdoor containers, pot and pack, suitable for borders and beds |
| **Mature plant height** | 25-35 cm (10-12") |
| **Mature plant width** | 25-35 cm (10-12") |
| **Pot size** | Packs, 10-15 cm (4-6") pots, quart or gallon pots |
| **Plants per pot** | 1 for 10 cm (4")  
3 per 15 cm (6") or larger |
| **Sun exposure** | Sun or partial shade |
| **Water requirements** | Reduced, avoid wet conditions |
| **Flowering time** | Entire growing season |
| **Media** | A well-drained, porous media is best to prevent over watering  
pH 5.5-6.2  
EC 0.5-1.8 (50-150 ppm) |
| **Growing temperature** | Temperature for active growth  
15°C (58°F) at night,  
16-18°C (60-64°F) at day time |
| **Light** | Increase total light energy to promote early flowering, daylength extension is not necessary but will promote bud set |
| **Fertilizer needs** | Balanced N:P:K fertiliser as needed ammonium based fertilizers are not recommended, use calcium based fertilizers  
EC 1.8-2.2 (50-200 ppm) |
| **Crop time** | 13-15 weeks |
| **Hardiness zone** | Z 6-9 |

**Growth regulators**  
Dianthus responds to: Chlormequat (Cycocel) and Paclobutrazol (Bonzi)

**Common Diseases**  
Botrytis, Alternaria leaf spot, Fusarium Wilt

**Common Pests**  
Spider mites, Thrips, Aphids and Whitefly

**Pinching**  
No need but a single pinch is recommended for a better branching.  
Crop time is 1-2 weeks longer
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**Plug Production**

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Seed forms</strong></th>
<th>Raw and pelleted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Seed count</strong></td>
<td>1,100-1,250 sds/gr (30,000-35,000 sds/oz) Varies by lot!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Seeds cell</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vermiculite cover</strong></td>
<td>Light cover</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Stage 1**

**Germination**

Temperature 21-24°C (70-75°F) growing medium temperature  
EC 0.5  
Radicle emergence will take place in 2-4 days  
Keep media moist but do not overwater  
Dianthus is very sensitive to high salt levels in stage 1 and 2

**Stage 2**

**Stem and cotyledon**

Keep media moist, lower night temperature to 18°C (65°F)  
Under low light conditions supplementary lighting is advised to promote compact strong seedlings

**Stage 3**

**Growth and development**

Moisture: reduce moisture levels and allow medium to dry between watering  
Do not allow plants to wilt  
Temperature: 18-20°C (65-68°F)  
Fertilization: as stage 2  
To prevent stretching alternate with potassium nitrate at EC 1.2-1.5 (100-175 ppm)

**Stage 4**

**Ready for transplanting**

Moisture: reduce moisture levels and allow medium to dry between watering  
Do not allow plants to wilt  
Temperature: 13-15°C (54-59°F)  
Fertilization: see stage 3

**Plug crop time**

5-6 weeks

**Approximate finish time**

9-10 weeks

**Special tips**

Ensure best light conditions especially early season and grow dry to restrict and harden growth. Transplant on time

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**Text is subject to typing or printing errors.**