Candy Showers Trailing Snapdragon

Cultural Information for: Antirrhinum Candy Showers; Annual

Common Name: Snapdragon

Botanical Name: Antirrhinum majus

Seed Count: 157,000 – 227,000/ounce (5,600 – 8,000/gram)

Optimum Germination Temperature: 65°F/18°C **Optimum Growing Temperature:** $60 - 65^{\circ}F/5 - 18^{\circ}C$

PLUG CULTURE – 4 WEEKS (288 / 12 X 24 TRAY)

Stage 1 (Days 1 - 10) Sow multipellet seed into trays filled with a sterile and well-drained media with an EC of 0.5 or less. A 288 plug tray or larger cell size is recommended. Optimum pH is 5.5 to 5.8. Lightly cover the seed with medium vermiculite and provide sufficient moisture to dissolve the pellet. Maintain a temperature

Stage 2 (Days 11 – 18) The cotyledons are now visible and roots are beginning to form. Maintain the media moist but not saturated to promote healthy root development and penetration. Maintain the air temperature at 65° F/18°C and apply a light feeding (50 – 75 ppm N) from a well-balanced calcium nitrate based formulation.

Stage 3 (Days 19 – 27) The first true leaves are now developed and roots are beginning to penetrate the media. Allow the media to dry slightly between irrigations to promote healthy root growth. Maintain air temperature between $65 - 68^{\circ}F/18 - 20^{\circ}C$ and increase the fertilizer rate to 75 – 100 ppm N. Target the EC level at 0.75 mmhos (2:1 slurry) as Snapdragons are salt sensitive, (>1.0 mmhos).

TRANSPLANTING TO FLOWER

Media: Select a sterile and well-drained media with a pH between 5.5 – 5.8 and low in nutrients (EC level less than 1.0 mmhos).

Temperature: Optimum growing temperature is $60 - 65^{\circ}F/15 -$ 18°C during the day and 60°F/15°C at night. Once established, the night temperature may be reduced to $50 - 55^{\circ}F/10 - 13^{\circ}C$.

Fertilizer: Maintain the media EC between 1.0 and 1.5 mmhos (2:1 slurry) by applying 150 – 200 ppm N as needed from a well-balanced calcium nitrate based formulation. The use of Cal/ Mag formulations, such as 15-5-15, work well to supply adequate amounts of magnesium. Avoid high rates of ammonium, especially at low temperatures, which promote softer growth and stretched plants. High pH (>6.5) results in iron chlorosis.

Lighting: Antirrhinum is a facultative long day plant. Providing long days (>14 hours) along with supplemental lighting, up to 2,500 foot candles/27,000 lux, will hasten development and flowering.

Pests and Diseases: Aphids, Thrips and Spider Mites. Botrytis, Downy Mildew, Powdery Mildew, Pythium, Rust, Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus and Impatiens Necrotic Spot Virus.

CROP SCHEDULING:

Container	Plants Per Pot	Weeks from Sowing*
4 inch/10 cm	1 multi-plug	9 – 10 weeks
1 quart/12 cm	1 multi-plug	10 – 11 weeks
6 inch/12 cm	1 multi-plug	11 – 12 weeks
10 inch/25 cm	3 multi-plugs	12 – 14 weeks
12 inch/30 cm	4 multi-plugs	13 – 15 weeks

*Depending on day-length and temperature. Reduce crop time by 1 – 2 weeks for late summer/early fall production.

Culture Watch Point: Candy Showers becomes receptive to flower bud initiation at 5 pairs of true leaves. To promote sufficient vegetative growth in the final container, transplant when plugs have around two leaf pairs. A photoperiod of 10.5+ hours is necessary to initiate and develop flowers. However, a longer day length yields

Outdoors: Candy Showers spreads up to one foot in the garden and grows 4 – 6 inches tall depending on the climate, soil type and



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The **first** ever trailing snapdragon from **seed** is ideal for hanging baskets and mixed containers in **spring** and **fall**!



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The FIRST EVER trailing snapdragon from seed, Candy Showers delivers a tremendous amount of cascading WOW color power in a choice of six bright colors. With a full, trailing habit Candy Showers is beautiful as a stand-alone display or as a mix in hanging baskets, containers and in the landscape. Be sure to try Candy Showers with other favorites such as flowering cabbage and kale and fall pansies. Great in both the spring and the fall.

- Strong, flexible stems make shipping easy and hold up well in the garden
- Excellent addition to fall trailing pansy sales
- Blooms easily under short days





