

Firefly Petunia Culture Guide

The groundbreaking new plant developed by Light Bio using advanced biotechnology.

A unique collaboration of nature and modern innovation.

By day it’s another white petunia; at night its bioluminescence fascinates.

This first-generation breakthrough is a stand-alone cultivar.

Because of its groundbreaking genetics, Firefly petunia requires more attention than typical petunia varieties. Besides its bioluminescence, Firefly has some characteristics that differ from today’s mainstream cultivars. Throughout the growing cycle from young plants to finished retail plants, Firefly will express variability in its foliage coloration and growth habit. It is typical for Firefly to have variable shades, patterns and mottling of yellow-to-green growth. While atypical for other petunias, this tendency is present in healthy Firefly plants. An ideal growing environment and fertility regime help to keep this to a minimum, but the tendency does persist throughout the plants’ life.

Finishing Guidelines

Crop Planning from young plant:

Pot Size	Finish Time (in weeks)	Plants per Pot (PPP)
4” pot (10 cm)	5 to 7	1 PPP
6” pot (15 cm)	7 to 8	1 PPP
8” pot (20 cm)	9 to 11	1 PPP
12” pot (30 cm)	7 to 8	3 PPP

Temperature Requirement: Day – 60° to 70°F (15° to 21°C) – Night – 55 to 60°F (13° to 15°C)

Media and pH Requirements: Use a sterile, well-drained soil and maintain pH range of 5.8 to 6.3. Water thoroughly and let soil dry out between irrigations. Over watering, oxygen deprivation, and poor drained soils may cause foliar chlorosis similar to chlorosis symptoms caused by iron deficiency.

- **Fertilizer requirements:** Use a balanced feed at 200 to 250 ppm. EC of 1.25 to 2.0 is optimal. Chlorotic foliage frequently results from deficiencies of Fe, Mn, and Mg. Iron and Manganese will be seen on youngest leaves where as Magnesium will be seen on oldest leaves, both portrayed as interveinal chlorosis. To avoid the yellowing, ensure that fertilizer sources contain these elements or provide supplemental forms in your fertilizer including micro elements.



- **Pinching requirements:** Pinch dominant shoots 10 to 14 days after transplant or once the plants have become established.

- **Plant Growth Regulators:** B-9 is effective to control stretch during cloudy weather and for toning finished pots for improved shelf life. Sumagic PGR as spray at 15 to 30 ppm OR Bonzi as drench at 1 to 3 ppm for finishing.



- **Disease and Insect Pests:**

- Whitefly, Thrip and Aphids
- Pythium and Botrytis- Excessive moisture for long periods of time will damage roots, causing yellowing of plants resembling a nutrient deficiency. Maintain consistent soil moisture and regularly apply preventative root rot fungicides.
- **Comments:** Mounding spreading habit and a day neutral flower response enables grower to sell in bloom in many size pots.



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