Helianthus Big Smile™

*Helianthus annuus*

**COLORS AVAILABLE:**
Golden yellow petals with darker center

**SIZE/PLANT HABIT:**
6 - 20 inches tall, single stem/annual

**NOVELTY CHARACTERISTICS:**
Early blooming, dwarf plant, nearly daylength neutral (can be produced for pots year round)

**MARKET USE:**
Bedding, summer sales, pot sales, combination planters

**CULTURAL RECOMMENDATIONS:**
- Well suited to sow directly to final container, but large plug sizes (200 cell tray minimum) can be used

**SOWING:**
- Finishing: Planting

**FINISH CONTAINER:**
4½ to 6”, gallon or multiples in larger containers

**PLUG STAGE:**
- **GERMINATION:**
  Emergence 5 – 10 days / 68 – 72°F / cover seed
  Emergence to cotyledon expansion = 0.75 mS/cm
- **EC (POUR THRU METHOD):**
  Cotyledon expansion to true leaf growth = 0.75 – 1.0 mS/cm
  Plug/young plant finish = 1.0 – 1.75 mS/cm
- **PLUG FINISH TIME:**
  If started in plugs, be sure to transplant before plants become stressed or excessively stretched, generally plants are ready for transplanting around 21 – 25 days

**FINISHING:**
- **TRANSPLANT:**
  Direct sow, if sown in plugs transplant around 21 – 25 days

**DAYS TO FLOWER FROM SOWING:**
50-55 days

**TEMPERATURE:**
75 - 85°F day / 65 - 70°F night

**EC:**
1.75-3.0 mS/cm (pour thru method)

**pH:**
6.0-6.5

**COMMON DISEASE/PESTS:**
Pythium root rot is a problem especially during cool, moist weather

**NOTES:**
- A-Rest, B-Nine, Bonzi & Sumagic are all effective on this variety
- Avoid over watering sunflower. Allow plants to dry moderately then water thoroughly.
- Keep plants fed enough to maintain green cotyledons up to flowering. Watch for iron deficiency when pH exceeds 6.8.
- Nutritional and/or water stress early in the culture of Helianthus (especially in plug trays) can cause premature budding and lower finish quality

Descriptions, illustrations, photos and disease resistance, etc. are based upon the results obtained under favorable conditions and certain races of pathogens/diseases. Identical results are not guaranteed nor implied for all growing conditions. Information is based on average data compiled. Physical characteristics, adaptability and disease tolerance may vary under different conditions.

Rev B