

# Vinca (Catharanthus) rosea F1 Solar Avalanche series



|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Life cycle</b>          | Annual  |
| <b>Family/origin</b>       | Apocynaceae /India and Sri Lanka  |
| <b>Popular uses</b>        | Flowering plant, pots, packs, outdoor mixed containers, landscape beds, hanging baskets   |
| <b>Mature plant height</b> | 20-30 cm (8-12")  |
| <b>Mature plant width</b>  | 45-55 cm (18-22")   |
| <b>Pot size</b>            | 10-15 cm (3-6")   |
| <b>Plants per pot</b>      | 1 plant 10 cm<br>3 plants 15 cm or larger   |
| <b>Sun exposure</b>        | Full sun  |
| <b>Water requirements</b>  | Normal to reduced   |
| <b>Flowering time</b>      | All growing season  |
| <b>Media</b>               | A well-drained, porous media is best to prevent over watering<br>pH 5.5-6.2<br>EC 0.7-1.5 (100-175 ppm)   |
| <b>Growing temperature</b> | Start at 22-24°C (70-75°F)<br>Lower the temperature after root at 18-22°C (64-70°F)<br>Avoid wet conditions at night                                  |
| <b>Light</b>               | Vinca prefers high light conditions   |
| <b>Fertilizer needs</b>    | Well balanced complete fertilizer<br>-avoid ammonia Cal nitrogen as it will promote soft growth and disease susceptibility<br>EC 1.8-2.2 (50-200 ppm) |
| <b>Crop time</b>           | 11-12 weeks for packs and small pots, to 18 weeks for a cascading hanging basket  |
| <b>Hardiness zone</b>      | 10-13   |



Apricot

## Growth regulators

Vinca responds to: Daminozide (Dazide, B-Nine), A-rest and Chlormequat (Cycocel). Concentrations vary per region and by season. Bonzi and Sumagic are known for creating leafspot problems in Vinca

## Common Diseases

Botrytis, Rhizoctonia, Pythium, Phytophthora, Thielaviopsis

## Common Pests

Thrips, Aphids, Whitefly and Spider mites

## Pinching

No need, but a single pinch to 2-3 leaf pairs is recommended for a better branching, crop time is 1-2 weeks longer

# Vinca (Catharanthus) rosea F1 Solar Avalanche series

## Plug Production



|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Seed forms</b>                          | Raw   |
| <b>Seed count</b>                          | 500-700 sds/gr (14,000-19,600 seeds/oz) <i>Varies by lot!</i>   |
| <b>Recommended plug size</b>               | 480-264   |
| <b>Seeds cell</b>                          | 1   |
| <b>Vermiculite cover</b>                   | Coarse  |
| <b>Stage 1<br/>Germination</b>             | Germination: 5-6 days<br>Vinca requires darkness for optimum germination. Covering the seeds with coarse vermiculite is sufficient<br>Light will slow down or even prohibit germination<br>Media pH 5.5 to 6.3<br>Moisture: keep medium saturated<br>Growing medium temperature: 25°C (77°F)<br>Fertilizer levels: EC 0.5-1 (100 ppm) |
| <b>Stage 2<br/>Stem and cotyledon</b>      | Reduce moisture levels to obtain optimum root penetration and to prevent fungal diseases. Prevent wet foliage after nightfall<br>Growing medium temperature: 22-24°C (70-75°F)<br>Fertilizer levels: EC 0.7-1.2 (100-175 ppm)<br>After germination: 25,000-30,000 lux (2,500-3,000 fc)  |
| <b>Stage 3<br/>Growth and development</b>  | Moisture: reduce moisture levels and allow medium to dry somewhat between watering, but do not allow plants to wilt<br>Temperature: 20-22°C (68-70°F)<br>Fertilizer levels: as stage 2<br>To prevent stretching alternate with potassium nitrate at EC 1.5-2 (50-75 ppm)<br>Keep light levels high                                    |
| <b>Stage 4<br/>Ready for transplanting</b> | Moisture: reduce moisture levels and allow medium to dry somewhat between watering, but do not allow plants to wilt<br>Temperature: 18-20°C (64-68°F)<br>Fertilizer levels: see stage 3<br>Seedling maturity: Up to 50,000 lux (5,000 fc)   |
| <b>Plug crop time</b>                      | 5-6 weeks   |
| <b>Approximate finish time</b>             | 5-8 weeks   |
| <b>Special tips</b>                        | Vinca (Catharanthus) is a high light loving plant<br>Seedlings will benefit from supplementary lighting and warm temperatures both night and day are needed throughout production<br>Take care not to overwater   |