

# Vinca (Catharanthus) rosea F1 Solar 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 and landscape beds
<b>Mature plant height</b>	20-30 cm (8-12")
<b>Mature plant width</b>	20-30 cm (8-12")
<b>Pot size</b>	Packs, 10-15 cm (4-6") pots and larger
<b>Plants per pot</b>	Packs, 10-15 cm (4-6") pots and larger, hanging baskets
<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 pH 5.5-6.2 EC 0.7-1.5 (100-175 ppm)
<b>Growing temperature</b>	Start at 22-24°C (70-75°F) Lower the temperature after root at 18-22°C (64-70°F) Avoid wet conditions at night
<b>Light</b>	Vinca prefers high light conditions
<b>Fertilizer needs</b>	Well balanced complete fertilizer -avoid ammonia Cal nitrogen as it will promote soft growth and disease susceptibility EC 1.8-2.2 (50-200 ppm)
<b>Crop time</b>	11-12 weeks for packs and small pots to 14 weeks for larger pots
<b>Hardiness zone</b>	10-13



Lilac

## 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 is recommended for a better branching. Croptime is 1-2 weeks longer

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## Plug Production



<b>Seed forms</b>	Raw
<b>Seed count</b>	500-700 sds/gr (14,000-19,600 sds/oz) <i>Varies by lot!</i>
<b>Seeds cell</b>	1
<b>Vermiculite cover</b>	Coarse
<b>Stage 1 Germination</b>	<p>Vinca requires darkness for optimum germination. Covering the seeds with coarse vermiculite is sufficient</p> <p>Light will slow down or even prohibit germination</p> <p>Media pH 5.5 to 6.3</p> <p>Moisture: keep medium saturated.</p> <p>Growing medium temperature: 25°C (77°F)</p> <p>Fertilizer levels: EC 0.5-1 (100 ppm)</p>
<b>Stage 2 Stem and cotyledon</b>	<p>Reduce moisture levels to obtain optimum root penetration and to prevent fungal diseases. Prevent wet foliage after nightfall</p> <p>Growing medium temperature: 22-24°C (70-75°F)</p> <p>Fertilizer levels: EC 0.7-1.2 (100-175 ppm)</p> <p>After germination: 25,000-30,000 lux (2,500-3,000 fc)</p>
<b>Stage 3 Growth and development</b>	<p>Moisture: reduce moisture levels and allow medium to dry somewhat between watering, but do not allow plants to wilt</p> <p>Temperature: 20-22°C (68-70°F)</p> <p>Fertilizer levels: as stage 2</p> <p>To prevent stretching alternate with potassium nitrate at EC 1.2-1.5 (100-175 ppm)</p> <p>Keep light levels high</p>
<b>Stage 4 Ready for transplanting</b>	<p>Moisture: reduce moisture levels and allow medium to dry somewhat between watering, but do not allow plants to wilt</p> <p>Temperature: 18-20°C (64-68°F)</p> <p>Fertilizer levels: see stage 3</p> <p>Seedling maturity: Up to 50,000 lux (5,000 fc)</p>
<b>Plug crop time</b>	5-6 weeks
<b>Approximate finish time</b>	5-8 weeks
<b>Special tips</b>	<p>F1 Solar is less susceptible to diseases. The application of good growing techniques will help to prevent many problems</p> <p>Vinca's are light feeders. Over fertilizing N will result in soft leaf tissue, which is more susceptible to diseases. The use of ammonium-based fertilizers may result in thin, elongated roots; these are more susceptible to soil born fungi</p> <p>Vinca is day length neutral and do best in a warm and sunny environment</p> <p>Avoid overhead watering</p> <p>Allow foliage to dry during daytime to prevent disease problems</p>