

## ***Begonia x benariensis*** ***BIG DeluXXe Red Bronze Leaf***

### ***Culture guide***

**Uses:**

Packs, Pots, Hanging Baskets, Mixed Containers  
and Landscape

**Exposure:**

Partial shade - Sun

**Garden height:**

35" / 90 cm

**Crop time:**

14-19 weeks

**Sowing method:**

1-2 seeds or pellets per plug

**Germination:**

Optimum conditions for seedling development,  
beginning on the day of sowing until radicle  
emergence. Expect radicle emergence in 6-8  
days.

**Media:**

Plug Culture:

Begin with a saturated (5) for the first 10 days  
and on day 11 begin to dry them back slightly to  
wet (4). This will help in the seedlings rooting into  
the media. On day 11 begin to alternate between  
a wet (4) and a moist (3) until day 21. On day 21  
it is critical to begin a good wet to dry cycle to  
prevent algae growth and help with the uptake of  
nutrients. At this point you can alternate between  
a wet (4) and a medium (2).

Growing On:

Alternate between moisture levels wet (4) and  
medium (2). Let plants dry back to at least a  
medium (2) before re-saturating to a wet (4).  
Extremely dry plants will have a grayish cast to  
the leaves. Avoid watering plants under high  
temperature and light when the leaf temperature  
is excessive. This can cause leaf burn.

**Fertilization:**

Plug Culture:

Maintain an EC

Growing On:

Moderate fertilization levels are required.

Fertilize the crop weekly with 100-150 ppm nitrogen, using a complete balanced fertilizer.

Avoid high ammonium and high nitrogen levels, because the foliage can grow very large. Avoid pH levels above 6.0, as high pH can cause iron deficiency. Watch for low Ca and Mg levels since this can result in stunted plants with marginal leaf edge burn. Under high light conditions use an ammonium based fertilizer (17-5-17) and under low light use a calcium based fertilizer (14-4-14-).