

Strawberry F1-hybrids

Young Plant Production for Fruit Growing

sowing

The seeds can be sown on plugs of diameter 2 cm. We have good experience with plugs of peat and of rock wool. Under constant wet conditions seed may not be covered; under more dry circumstances seed may be slightly covered.

Germination

Optimum germination temperature is 22 °C. The temperature range is between 20 and 25 °C. After sowing the trays should be covered by perforated plastic or cloth. Seed will also germinate in a dark cell. After 5 days the first seeds start to germinate: take the trays out of the germination room. Remove the plastic when all seeds have been germinated, approximately after 10-12 days. Under low light conditions, give from the start supplemental assimilation light to prevent stretching of the seedlings. Temperature should be lowered to D/N 20/16 °C after 14 days.

Growing the young plants

Pricking out in the final tray can be done 5-6 weeks after sowing. A few days after pricking out temperature should be lowered stepwise to D/N 16/10 °C.

Optimum conditions for growing young plants of the ABZ F1-hybrids are:

- Enough space to grow and enough space to root
- Sufficient water and nutrition
- Temperature between 14 °C – 23 °C, average night temperature between 8 – 12 °C.
- High light levels
- Day length more than 14 hours, preferably 16 hours.
- Relative humidity: 75%

When the plugs are well rooted and the plants are well developed, the plants for the open field culture need to be hardened outdoors during 2 weeks. For greenhouse culture plants need to show a first flower truss before transplanting.

Plant profiles

culture	sowing	pricking out	planting	plant profile	start fruiting
open field summer	week 3 20/18 °C. Grow light 16 hrs	week 9 16/10 °C., hardening outdoors 2 wks.	week 15	vegetative min. root volume 100 cc.	week 20 -25
greenhouse spring	week 37 20/16 °C.	week 43 18/12 °C. Grow light 16 hrs	week 1	first flower visible min. root volume 225 cc.	week 13-16
greenhouse autumn	week 19 20/16 °C.	week 24 20/14 °C.	week 29	first flower visible min. root volume 225 cc.	week 32-34

Advices for cultural practice

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Product illustrations

All varieties shown were grown under favourable conditions. Identical results are not guaranteed, nor implied for all growing conditions.

