



1. Variety name : CALLISTEPHUS chinensis Qis® Matsumoto Series

2. Description :

A very disease-resistant medium sized Callistephus with upright 60 cm high little branching stems. Each branch carries a spray-type flower. Due to its great uniformity and large color range, one of the better Callistephus varieties used for fresh cutflower production at this moment. In cultivation and growth comparable to the well-known pompon types.

3. General :

- a. colors : blue, light blue, scarlet, yellow, pink, red, rose, salmon, white, blue-tipped white, pink-tipped white
- b. height : 60-70 cm
- c. life cycle : annual
- d. weight of 1000 seeds : 2,2 gr
- e. time sowing/flowering : 14-18 weeks in summer production; 2-4 weeks more when produced in autumn
- f. family : Compositae
- g. hardiness zone :

4. Sowing instructions :

- a. method : directseeding or transplanting
- b. time : from February - March until mid July (for greenhouse culture)
- c. temperature : 18-20°C
- d. germination time : 10-14 days
- e. seed quantity or plants per m² : 50 gr/100 m²; when transplanted = 5 gr/1000 plants

5. Growing on :

- a. distance between rows and/or plants : when sown directly: 30-35 cm between the rows; when transplanted: 64 pl/m² = 12,5x12,5, always to be planted in netting
- b. soil : Callistephus should not be produced twice on the same field within 6-7 years in order to avoid verticillium problems. Any well-drained soil with sufficient fertilization level can be used.

- c. irrigation : normal overhead irrigation can be applied until flowering stage
- d. optimum temperature : 10-15°C
- e. diseases/pests : Callistephus reacts strongly on insect attacks (like aphids) and should therefore be protected preventively. When produced outdoors in cold periods, Callistephus' darker colors (blue, violet etc.) react with a strong xanthophyl coloring in the leave nerves. This disappears after a warmer period.
- f. fertilization : -

6. General advice

Callistephus should be cut when flowers are just opening. The first appearing flower should be pinched in time to enable the secondary flowers to bloom more evenly. Contrary to other Callistephus varieties, Matsumoto should not be pinched after transplanting. Pinching reduces height extremely.

Callistephus needs no real specific post harvest treatment.