

HELIANTHUS SUNCATCHER



- Perennial Helianthus
- Eye-catching color
- Amazing garden performance
- Bee friendly
- Plant height: 20-24"
- Zone 5-9



Helianthus 'Suncatcher' is a perennial sunflower and has a zone 5 hardiness. This makes the 'Suncatcher' Helianthus extremely good for garden use in a wide range of zones.

*The 'Suncatcher' is bred in the north of Germany by Hartwig Bull. The habit of this cultivar is shorter and more compact than other *H. decapetalus* types.*

*Here in the north we have experienced that *Helianthus 'Suncatcher'* is less effective to Powdery Mildew than other *Helianthus* of this group. This makes the 'Suncatcher' interesting for production.*

*The *Helianthus 'Suncatcher'* is a perfect pollinator and attracts all kind of Bee's, Bumblebee's and other insects.*

HELIANTHUS SUNCATCHER



GROWING DETAILS

- pH 5,5 – 6,0

Substrate

- Substrate mix should contain coarse components for good drainage
- Use peat with a granulation of 0,25" to 1"
- 20% wood fiber is also possible
- Basic fertilization with a coated fertilizer and release time of 5-6 month. Use about 0,5 oz per 1 gal substrate

Water management

- Keep always moist
- Overhead irrigation is possible
- Dripper system is good as well (can later be a benefit for later GR-treatments)

Fertilization

- Fertilize with every watering
- Start with a 21-10-11 or similar
- Continue and finish with 15-15-15
- Calcium nitrate can help moving plants if too small
- 150 – 200 ppm N will be fine

Pinching

- A Suncatcher needs no pinch! Plants will branch without.

Growth retardants

- B-Nine spray with 3.000 ppm
- During rooting in the 3rd week
- After transplanting – start when the plant is about 8" high
- Perfect results we have achieved with a Bonzi drench
- 30 – 60 ppm
- 2wks later a 2nd drench if needed
- Bonzi spray can work as well 30–60 ppm

PESTS

Helianthus 'Suncatcher' are not very attracted by pests. Please monitor for:

- Aphids in the early season
- Spiders and mites in warm and dry climates
- Maybe some caterpillar in the late season

DISEASES

Due to the structure of the foliage which is rather strong, fungus diseases don't occur often. In the late season when it come to autumn conditions maybe a little Mildew can be detected. This is caused due to the fact, that the plant leads back proteins, starch and hormones into the root system for overwintering.

During the crop time there is no bigger problem with Mildew. Botrytis might be fought with common fungicides.

PRODUCTION IN A 1GAL CONTAINER

Start with liners (RC)

- Start with 2 rooted cuttings / liners per container
- No pinch necessary
- 1st Bonzi drench - Plant is about 8" high
- 2nd Bonzi drench - Depending on growth & habit



PRODUCTION IN A 5" POT

Start with liners (RC)

- Start with a rooted cutting / liner
- No pinch necessary
- 1st Bonzi drench - Plant is about 5" high
- 2nd Bonzi drench - Depending on growth & habit



We recommend growing Helianthus 'Suncatcher' not under glass or plastic cover. A Helianthus 'Suncatcher' stays outdoor grown much more compact due to: higher light levels, more UV-light, lower average temperatures

Total weeks of production for Helianthus 'Suncatcher' without pinching (recommended)														
↓		B-Nine			B-Nine	1 st Bonzi	2 nd Bonzi							
URC - Rooting in liner / 4 wks				growing				about 5-8"	Only if needed	Flower				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15

Total weeks of production for Helianthus 'Suncatcher' with pinching														
↓		B-Nine			B-Nine	pinch	B-Nine	1 st Bonzi	2 nd Bonzi					
URC - Rooting in liner / 4 wks				growing				about 5-8"		Only if needed	Flower			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15

