

WESTCOUNTRY LUPINES



GENERAL INFORMATION

- Production: Excellent for larger 2 to 3 gallon containers; large flower spikes closely packed with individual bells, strong and unique colors. Although they are a hardy perennial to zone 4, this series will shine as a pot crop with a huge impact on display at retail. The massive display of flowers will also support a much higher price point than normal lupine varieties.
- Hardiness: Tested to USDA Zone 4
- Foliage: Soft green to grayish-red, the finger like leaves make whirls at the top of the leaf stems.
- Flower Color: 13 color assortment of solids and bi-colors; see images of all varieties on page 2.
- Flowering Time: Late April to Early June.
- Flowering Height: 24-36" spikes of single flowers.
- Use for: Cottage/landscape garden effect in borders, premium patio/container centerpiece.
- Landscape Culture: Sun, partial shade; moderately fertile light soils that are slightly acidic (Lupines dislike limey soils).
- Protected: Must Have Perennials EU and USA; the breeder asserts ownership of all rights in this plant.
- **Availability:** 72cell liners will be available starting in wk33, 2020. 32cell liners available starting in wk1, 2021. Please contact your broker sales rep for pricing information.

GROWER INFORMATION

PLANTING AND CROP TIMING

- With an overall width of 24" to 30", this series should be treated as a large and premium crop due to their size and price point.
- We recommend that growers plant (1) 72cell liner in a 2-gallon pot in late summer to early fall. Westcountry lupine create the biggest display when bulked through the fall and winter months and allowed to bloom with the natural spring season of the location they're grown at. The more time given to bulk at cool temperatures, the more impressive the flower display.
- The Westcountry lupine can also be planted into finished containers from cooled/vernalized liners in the spring, but the key is bulking. The larger the root system and the more crowns above the soil, the more flower spikes that will bloom in the spring.

TEMPERATURE AND LIGHT

- When actively growing or bulking, maintain night temperatures of 45°F or higher. When the plants are well-rooted and the foliage reaches the edge of the finished container, cool the temperatures down to 30-40°F nights. Lupine love cold!! But it is also best to keep the crop above 25°F to avoid complete dormancy.
- Vernalization is beneficial; the more time given to bulk at temperatures below 40°F, the more flower spikes will emerge. The Westcountry are not day-length neutral and will bloom in spring as days become longer.
- The Westcountry series will do best grown in full sun to part-shade conditions.

PINCHING AND PGR'S

- Do not pinch the new growth (crown) at the center of the plant. It is best to control plant growth with temperature. Cool them down to slow them down, warm them up to speed them up! Lupines respond very quickly to increases or decreases in temperature.
- A paclobutrazol PGR drench can also be applied to help maintain desired height, especially as temperatures increase in spring.

MEDIA, IRRIGATION AND FERTILIZATION

- Soil media in the finished pot needs to be porous, with excellent drainage. Maintain a pH on the acidic side, but not lower than 5.8.
- Liquid feed at 100ppm nitrogen during the bulking stage, but make sure the fertilizer used is low in phosphorus.
- Plants can be grown evenly moist but not wet. Be very careful about watering if the plants are kept on the colder side; though the plants will require some supplemental water, avoid over-watering as crown rot is possible.

PESTS AND DISEASES

- After potting into the final container, apply a preventative fungicide drench.
- Other diseases that could be an issue such as Anthracnose and Powdery Mildew can easily be controlled with a fungicide spray.
- Clean up any dead leaves to prevent rot and disease issues.
- Insects that affect lupines include Aphids and Leaf Miner. Scouting for any issues along with a preventative drench and spray program should help prevent most pest infestations and diseases.



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AVAILABILITY

- 13 colors are available for the 2020-21 season.
- Please contact your broker sales rep for pricing and shipping information.
- 72cell liners will be available in August, 2020.
32cell liners available in January, 2021.



Westcountry 'Blacksmith'



Westcountry 'Desert Sun'
**Limited quantities*



Westcountry 'Magic Lantern'
**Limited quantities*



Westcountry 'Manhattan Lights'



Westcountry 'Masterpiece'



Westcountry 'Persian Slipper'



Westcountry 'Polar Princess'
**Limited quantities*



Westcountry 'Rachel de Thame'



Westcountry 'Red Rum'



Westcountry 'Salmon Star'
**Limited quantities*



Westcountry 'Tequila Flame'



Westcountry 'Terracotta'



Westcountry 'Towering Inferno'
**Limited quantities*