# **Fact Sheet**







Macintosh HD:Users:judie:Desktop:Bonfire Choc Pink FactSheet USA.doc 10/20/2010

## Introduction

Begonia BONFIRE® Choc Pink has an eye-catching display of blush pink flowers covering up to half of the plant, contrasting against chocolate / plum coloured foliage. BONFIRE Choc Pink complements its well known cousin Bonfire with a similar trailing habit, making it ideal for hanging baskets, patio pots and window boxes.

Starting to bloom in late Spring, it continues to shower you with blush pink blooms contrasting nicely against its dark foliage from Spring, all through Summer, and right up until late Fall.

Low maintenance, easy-care, BONFIRE® Choc Pink can be grown in full sun or partial shade and is not afraid of summer rains or **drier summer conditions**. It is ideal where masses of color are required with little or no care.

## Key Features

- Stunning profusion of blush pink flowers
- Great Chocolate / Plum foliage
- Drought tolerant and heat hardy
- Sensational in patio pots and hanging baskets
- Same great growth habit as Bonfire
- Low maintenance and easy care

# Suggested Uses

Patio pots and hanging baskets. Also garden landscapes and a great combination plant in mixed containers.

#### **Growth Habit**

Rounded profile, up to 20 inches wide as a garden plant or in a larger hanging basket.

# Mature Height

Garden height up to 20 inches.

#### Mature Width

Garden width up to 20 inches.

#### Flower Size

2 inches long x 2 inches wide.

# Spacing

Space 20 inches apart.

## **Hardiness**

Tolerates mild frost in the garden.

## Flowering Period

Flowers form from Spring through to Summer, until frost.

## Number of Flowers

Up to 50% of the bush can be covered.

#### Flower Color

Blush pink flowers.

## Fragrance

No fragrance.

# Foliage

Chocolate / Plum colored foliage with a serrated edge and purple underside.

# **Pruning/Pinching**

Branches naturally, but will benefit from pinching to induce side branches and more compact spreading growth.

# **Temperature**

Recommended day temperature 72°F with night temperature of 64°F. Higher temperatures will reduce flower size and intensity of color. To increase flower size and intensity of flower color, once the buds are formed finish plants at 57°F to 61°F. Lower or higher temperatures will result in less than ideal plant formation. Temperatures higher than 79°F will increase plant size and reduce flower size.

## **Light Needs**

Grows in full sun to partial shade. In heavy shade, may spread producing lower growth, and fewer larger sized flowers.

## Soil Needs

Performs bests in a well drained friable soil or good quality potting mix.

## Water Needs

Keep moist through the growing season.

#### Fertilizer

Use a flower booster controlled release fertilizer in Spring.

## Disease Tolerance

If grown in heavy wet soils or over watered, stems can rot from fungal diseases.

## Pest Issues

Generally not damaged by pests, though white fly may cause some damage.

# Special Care

This is a tuberous Begonia and if carried over will benefit from digging and dividing every three years to remove old tubers and reinvigorate the plant however presents better as first year plant.