

**SUNNY CITIES HIBISCUS – ORDER INFORMATION AND CULTURE GUIDE  
BOSGRAAF GREENHOUSES, INC. 2011.2012**

**ORDER INFORMATION:**

Minimum order: 4 trays or 420 plants ( 8 trays or 840 plants = 1 full box )  
Box size: 23" x 23" x 21" – holds 8 individually boxed trays  
Box weight.charge: 35 – 40 lbs. ( 6-8 trays ) \$0.75 per tray or \$6.00 per 8 tray box  
Availability: October 3, 2011 through March 12, 2012  
Lead time: 9 weeks – Shipped FOB Hudsonville, Michigan  
Royalty . Care Tag: Both included in the cost of the cutting ( 1 tag per plant )

**VARIETIES AVAILABLE:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Atlanta – soft pink with veins         | 8. Las Vegas – orange blend               |
| 2. Chicago – buttery yellow               | 9. Nashville – dark red                   |
| 3. Denver – orange.yellow.pink            | 10. New Orleans – apricot with red throat |
| 4. Fairbanks – pure white                 | 11. New York – red.scarlet                |
| 5. Hilo – golden yellow . wht.throat      | 12. Charleston – bright red               |
| 6. Juneau – creamy white . yel.petal tips | 13. San Diego – buttery yellow            |
| 7. Miami – rose pink                      | 14. Sante Fe – deep red                   |

**REDS: NEW YORK, NASHVILLE, SANTE FE, CHARLESTON**

**YEELLOWS: CHICAGO, HILO, NEW ORLEANS, SAN DEIGO**

**PINKS: MIAMI, ATLANTA**

**ORANGE.BLEND: DENVER, LAS VEGAS WHITES: FAIRBANKS, JUNEAU**

**SOIL:** Use a peat based sphagnum mix – ph of 5.5 – 6.5

**PLANTING. FUNGICIDE:** Plant in wet soil and drench with fungicide for additional protection

**GROWING TECHNIQUES:**

1. **Two weeks after planting spray with 350 ppm of Floral and pinch at 3.4 weeks. The 1<sup>st</sup> pinch should leave 4 to 5 leaves or nodes. Spray Floral again 5-7 days after pinching.**
2. When pinching a 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> time, leave 1 to 2 nodes to create an even table with shoots.
3. Growers can build height gradually as needed for the size of pot.
4. A Cycocel spray of 500 - 1000 ppm will help tone and promote an even bud set. This is suggested at weeks 4,6, and 8. Frequency . rate of cycocel depends on the growth.

**TEMPERATURE AND LIGHT LEVELS:**

1. **Ideally the average day.night temperature must be at least 68 to 70 F. Temperature is the most important ingredient for root development and plant growth. Second most important : Hibiscus are heavy feeders.**

2. Grow with maximum light levels in the winter months. Shading is necessary at higher light and temperature levels. Sunny Cities flower with natural day – length.

**FERTILIZATION and PH ( 4.8 to 5.8 achieved with higher nitrogen feeding – see #2 below )**

1. After pinching increase nitrogen from 200 to 300 ppm of nitrogen ( 20-10-20 adding iron chelate at 4 oz. per 100 gallons to prevent chlorotic upper leaves ).
2. Also use a calcium – magnesium feed also during the first 8 weeks after pinching at rate of 100 ppm. Finish the last 3-4 weeks at 250 ppm using both feeds.

**PEST . DISEASE PREVENTION:** Spray for mite and whitefly using fungicide occasionally.

**FINISHING OPTIONS – POT SIZES:**

1. 6" to 6.5" – use 1 cutting or 2 cuttings spread, pinch leaving 5 to 6 nodes, then a 2<sup>nd</sup> pinch leaving 2 nodes. Crop time is 15 to 17 weeks ( with 2 pinches).
2. 7" to 8.5" – use 3 cuttings 2 - 3 pinches. Crop time is from 16 – 18 weeks.
3. 10" pot – use 4 cuttings and 3 pinches. Crop time is 19 to 22 weeks.
4. 12" to 16" pot – use 5 cuttings and 4 to 5 pinches. Crop time is 22 – 28 weeks.
5. 7" to 8" tree – ask for special instructions.