

# easy grow guide

## Cucumbers

### Petipikel and Peticue

(Cucumis sativus)



#### Plug Production: direct sow into a 3-4" (9-11cm) pot or final container

<b>Sowing/Media:</b>	Use a well-drained, disease-free, peat based plug medium with pH 5.5-6.0, EC <1mmhos.
<b>Germination Stage 1: (1-5 days)</b>	Media should be kept evenly moist and media temperature should be 60-70°F (16-21°C). Light is not necessary for germination and seeds should be covered with approx. 0.5" (1cm) of disease-free, peat based compost.
<b>Germination Stage 2: (5-10 days)</b>	Once cotyledons emerge, reduce media temperature to 60-70°F (16-21°C), but keep the media moist. Light levels should be between 1000-2000 f.c. HID lights can be used to boost light levels during periods of low light/ for early sowings.
<b>Germination Stages 3&amp;4</b>	Maintain a minimum temperature of around 60-65°F (16-18°C). This will help minimise stretch. Dry media down slightly between irrigations but avoid wilt. Fertilize as required (once a week) using balanced calcium fertiliser such as a 14-0-14 at 50-100ppm. Keep media pH at 6.0-6.5 and EC 1.0-1.4 mmhos.

#### Growing On to Finish: Packs and 8-12" pot or hanging basket

<b>Media:</b>	Use a well-drained, disease free, peat-based growing mix with pH 6.0-6.5 and EC 1.0-1.4mmhos.
<b>Temperatures:</b>	Day temperatures can be 60-70°F (16-21°C) and night temperatures can be 50-60°F (10-15°C).
<b>Light:</b>	Light levels can be maintained at 4000-5000 f.c. HID lights can be used to boost light levels during periods of low light/ for early sowings. This will help minimise stretching. Watch for leaf scorch.
<b>Irrigation:</b>	Once plants have established, practice a good wet/dry irrigation cycle. Control foliar diseases by creating good air movement and approved fungicides.
<b>Fertiliser:</b>	Feed once a week with 100-150ppm N from a balanced fertiliser such as 15-0-15, 13-2-13. Calcium is important especially during fruit development. Use a calcium based fertilizer or add to your existing fertiliser. Once fruits begin to set, fertilise every irrigation. Flush media every 3 <sup>rd</sup> or 4 <sup>th</sup> watering to avoid salt build up.
<b>Growth Regulators:</b>	Good moisture and fertiliser management combined with the correct light levels and temperatures should remove the need for PGRs. This variety is naturally compact. DO NOT USE
<b>Pests:</b>	Whitefly and Thrip
<b>Diseases:</b>	Powdery mildew, Downy mildew,

#### Plug Times:

<b>3-4" (9-11cm) pot:</b>	10-14 days from sowing to transplant
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#### Transplant to Finish:

Container	Plants/Container	Transplant to first (retail)	Total Crop Time
<b>Packs</b>	1 x plug	2-4 weeks	4-6 weeks
<b>8-12" Pot</b>	1 x plug	7-9 weeks	9-11 weeks

Crop times are based on optimum conditions. Alternative environmental conditions and cultural regimes can lengthen the crop times stated above.