

easy grow guide

Okra French Quarter

(Abelmoschus esculentus)



Plug Production: Direct sow 3-4 inch pot , 3 seeds per pot

Sowing/Media:	Use a well-drained, disease-free, peat based plug medium with pH 5.8-6.5, EC <1.0 mmhos.
Germination Stage 1: (10-14 days)	Media should be saturated and humidity needs to be high until radicle emergence. Temperature should be 75-90°F (24-32°C). A light covering of vermiculite or growing medium can aid humidity.
Germination Stage 2: (14-21 days)	Once radicles emerge, media temperature should be maintained at 75-90°F (24-32°C). Once cotyledons are fully open, allow the media to become moist, not saturated and maintain even moisture. Humidity can now be reduced, but only slightly. Keep light levels between 1000-2000 f.c. HID lights can be used to boost light levels during periods of low light.
Germination Stages 3&4:	Temperature can now be kept around 75-90°F (24-32°C). Dry media down slightly between irrigations. Light levels can be increased to around 2500 and 3000 f.c. Avoid excess nitrogen levels, as this can cause leaf scorch. Fertilize as required using balanced calcium fertiliser such as a 5-10-15 at 50-100ppm. Keep media pH at 5.8-6.5 and EC <1.0 mmhos.

Growing On to Finish: flats or 8-12 inch + (20cm) pot

Media:	Use a well-drained, disease free, peat-based growing mix with pH 5.8-6.5 and EC <1 mmhos.
Temperatures:	Day temperatures can be 75-90°F (24-32°C). Night temperatures can be 70-80°F (21-27°C).
Light:	Light levels should be increased to 4000-5000 f.c.
Irrigation:	Practice a good wet/dry moisture cycle. Avoid excess moisture and overhead irrigation where possible. This will help to stop leaf scorch.
Fertilizer:	Feed every other irrigation with 150ppm N from a balanced fertiliser such as 6-12-12 or 5-10-15. Irrigate every watering and increase to 200ppm once fruit starts to set. Keep media pH 6.0-7.8 and EC <1 mmhos. Avoid excess nitrogen as this can delay flowering.
Growth Regulators:	Good moisture and fertiliser management combined with the correct light levels and temperatures should limit the need for PGRs. It is not recommended that PGRs be used on any product that is to be consumed. This variety is naturally compact. DO NOT USE
Pests:	Aphids, Thrips, Red spider mite
Diseases:	Fusarium wilt, Powdery Mildew

Pot Times:

3-4 inch pot	25-30 days from sowing to transplant
--------------	--------------------------------------

Transplant to Finish:

Container	Plants/Container	Transplant to Finish	Total Crop Time
8" (20cm) pot	1x pot	9-11 weeks	12-14 weeks
12" (30cm) pot	1 x pot	10-12 weeks	13-15 weeks

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