

# easy grow guide

## Tomato Little Sun

(Lycopersicon esulentum)



### Plug Production: 288 plugs or larger

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Sowing/Media:</b>                    | Use a well-drained, disease-free, peat based plug medium with pH 5.5-6.0, EC <1.0 mmhos.  |
| <b>Germination Stage 1: (4-7 days)</b>  | Media should be saturated and humidity needs to be high until radicle emergence. Temperature should be 60-72°F (16-22°C). Light is not necessary for germination so a very light covering of vermiculite or growing medium can aid humidity.  |
| <b>Germination Stage 2: (7-10 days)</b> | Once radicles emerge, maintain media temperature at 65-72°F (18-22°C). Once cotyledons are fully open, allow the media to become moist, not saturated and maintain even moisture. Humidity can now be reduced. Keep light levels between 1000-2000 f.c. HID lights can be used to boost light levels during periods of low light.   |
| <b>Germination Stages 3&amp;4:</b>      | Temperature can now be kept around 60-70°F (15-21°C) but reduced slightly during the night. Dry media down slightly between irrigations but avoid wilt. Increase light levels to around 2500 -3000 f.c, this will help stop stretching. Fertilize as required using balanced calcium fertiliser such as a 14-0-14 at 50-100ppm. Keep media pH at 5.5-6.0 and EC <1.0 mmhos. |

### Growing On to Finish: 6”(15cm) or 8”(20cm)

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Media:</b>             | Use a well-drained, disease free, peat-based growing mix with pH 5.5-6.2 and EC <1 mmhos.  |
| <b>Temperatures:</b>      | Day temperatures can be 60-70°F (16-21°C), night temperatures can be 50-60°F (10-16°C).  |
| <b>Light:</b>             | Light levels should be increased and maintained at 4000-5000 f.c.  |
| <b>Irrigation:</b>        | Once plants have established in the pot, practice a good wet/dry cycle to aid root development and control plant height. This will also benefit pest and disease pressures.  |
| <b>Fertiliser:</b>        | Feed every 2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> watering with a balanced fertiliser such as 13-2-13 or 15-0-15 at a rate of 150-200ppm. Calcium is important. Add calcium to your fertiliser or use a calcium based product. If growing to first ripe fruit, increase fertigation to every watering. |
| <b>Growth Regulators:</b> | Good moisture and fertiliser management combined with the correct light levels and temperatures should limit the need for PGRs. This variety is naturally compact.<br>DO NOT USE   |
| <b>Pests:</b>             | Whitefly, Aphid  |
| <b>Diseases:</b>          | Pythium  |

### Plug Times:

|                  |                                      |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>288 plug:</b> | 14-21 days from sowing to transplant |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|

### Transplant to Finish:

| Container            | Plants/Container | Transplant to green fruit (retail) | Total Crop Time |
|----------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>6” (15cm) Pot</b> | 1 x plug         | 6-8 weeks                          | 9-11 weeks      |
| <b>8” (20cm) Pot</b> | 1 x plug         | 9-11 weeks                         | 12-14 weeks     |

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