

Photinia Fireball Red

(*Photinia hybrid*)

Propagation

Not Applicable.

Growing On to Finish

Media

Performs well in general nursery production media.

Light

Full sun. Maintain light levels as high as possible while maintaining temperature.

Irrigation

Allow the media to dry slightly between waterings. Overwatering results in less upright plants. Best to water in the morning so the foliage is dry by end of day.

Fertilizer

Slow release fertilizer is best: 8 to 9-month, low-phosphorus Osmocote or similar at 3.5 to 4 kg per cubic meter/8-9 lbs per cubic yard of growing media. Liquid feeding using Peters Excel® 21:5:10 or similar. May need extra iron in the form of iron sulfate at 5 gm/l or 0.02 oz/gal to reduce potential yellowing of foliage. Application of liquid feed of 225ppm nitrogen may be necessary to promote green young growth; nitrogen will quickly increase foliage growth. If new growth tips stop showing a good, deep color, plants require more feeding.

Pruning

Well-branched liners or plugs are available from the Ball Ornamentals supplier network. Less pruning is needed to finish as a #1 or larger container. Finishes quickly for #1 sales.

Spacing

Initial potting can be kept can-tight. Spacing is recommended to promote lower, basal branching habit that is a feature of this cultivar.

Container Size

Recommended container size: #1 nursery container and larger.

Crop Scheduling

Container Size:

1 Gal:

Production Time (potting to finish): 30-40 Weeks

Potting Time Recommended: Week 35-40

Main Selling Period: Spring (all year)

2 Gal:

Production Time (potting to finish): 40-45 Weeks (from one gallon)

Potting Time Recommended: Week 30-45

Main Selling Period: Spring (all year)

Pests & Diseases

As a preventative control for Entomosporium Leaf Spot, the following treatments are recommended. Plants appear to be susceptible in the Winter into early Spring.

Cultural practices such as irrigation in the morning into mid-day is helpful so the foliage is dry before evening. Spacing containers material to help improve air circulation, avoiding heavy pruning and removing all fallen, diseased leaves from the production facility is beneficial. Fungicide applications do reduced the spotting on new foliage. A preventative fungicide treatment program is recommended. Fungicide applications during the growing season is necessary as a preventative measure. Applications should be made 10 to 14 days apart. We recommend using this to ensure that plants are clean. No major problems. Notably more disease tolerant than other Photinia cultivars.

NOTE: Growers should use the information presented here as a starting point. Crop times will vary depending on the climate, location, time of year and greenhouse environmental conditions. Chemical and PGR recommendations are only guidelines. It is the responsibility of the applicator to read and follow all the current label directions for the specific chemical being used in accordance with all regulations.