

Silene keiskei Silky

Life cycle	Perennial
Family / Origin	Caryophyllales / Japan
Popular uses	Flowering pots, perennial rock gardens and mixed containers
Mature plant height	15-20 cm (6-8")
Mature plant width	25-30 cm (10-12")
Pot size	10-15 cm (4-6") pots
Plants per pot	1-3 plants for 15 cm (6") or larger pots 3-5 plants for hanging basket
Sun exposure	Partial sun
Water requirements	Reduced, avoid wet conditions
Flowering time	Late Spring, Summer
Media	A well-drained, porous media is best to prevent overwatering pH 5.5–6.2 EC 0.5-1.5 (75-225 ppm N)
Growing temperature	Start at 18-20°C (64-68°F) Lower the temperature after rooting at 15-18°C (59-64°F) Avoid wet conditions at night
Light	N/A
Fertilizer needs	Balanced N:P:K fertilizer as needed recommended Use calcium based fertilizers EC 1.4-2.5 (210-375 ppm N)
Crop time	15-18 weeks First year flowering
Hardiness zone	Z 5-8



Description

This new Silene has a compact, mounded semi-trailing and well-branching plant habit. It is a unique first year flowering perennial with masses of star shaped flowers. Suitable for indoor and outdoor production. Beautiful product for rock garden, mixed containers and hanging baskets

Growth regulators

Responds to: Daminozide (Dazide / B-Nine) and Paclobutrazol (Bonzi)

Common diseases

Wet foliage needs to be avoided to prevent Botrytis, Leafspots and Fusarium

Common pests

Spider Mites, Aphids and Thrips

Pinching

No need, although frequent pinching will enhance regrowth

Crop type

Overwinter and first year flowering (no vernalisation needed)

Plug Production

Seed forms	Raw
Seed count	900-1.000 seeds/gram (25.500-28.350 seeds/oz); varies by lot!
Recommended plug size	250
Seeds cell	3-4
Vermiculite cover	Light cover of vermiculite
Stage 1 Germination	Media: pH 5.5-6.3 (10-12 days to initiate germination) EC 0.5-1.0 (75-150 ppm N) Moisture: keep medium saturated Temperature: 20-22°C (68-72°F)
Stage 2 Stem and cotyledon	Reduce moisture levels to obtain optimum root penetration and to prevent fungal diseases. Prevent wet foliage after nightfall Temperature: 18-20°C (64-68°F) Media: EC 0.5-1.0 (75-150 ppm N)
Stage 3 Growth and development	Moisture: reduce moisture levels and allow medium to dry between watering. Do not allow plants to wilt Temperature: 18-20°C (64-68°F) Media: EC 1.2-1.5 (180-225 ppm N)
Stage 4 Ready for transplanting	Moisture: reduce moisture levels and allow medium to dry between watering. Do not allow plants to wilt Temperature: 13-15°C (55-59°F) Fertilization: see stage 3
Plug crop time	5-6 weeks
Approximate finish time	10-12 weeks First year flowering Overwinter flowering for late spring-early summer sales
Special tips	Do not allow the plants to dry out, this might cause premature flowering Too wet media will keep the plant vegetative Total crop time depends on light intensity (season) and cultivation measures