

GROWERTALKS

Culture Notes

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Perk Up Heat & Drought-Tolerant Programs With MEGA PAZZAZ Portulaca

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This summer's record-breaking heat across North America has many growers and home gardeners looking for annual options that can not only tolerate high temperatures and low moisture, but also look great through those tough conditions.

MEGA PAZZAZ Gold Portulaca.

As you're preparing for the 2027 season, be sure to put portulaca on your growing list. Danziger's PAZZAZ Portulaca check all the boxes for big colorful blooms, heat-loving performance and attention-grabbing pots, combinations and hanging baskets at retail.

"At Danziger, a top goal is to create varieties that make things easier for growers, while still providing selections home gardeners can't resist," said Mike Fernandez, market manager, North America for Danziger. "Our three different PAZZAZ Portulaca series offer flexibility and performance you can count on, with improved flowering over the entire plant and blooms that stay open more reliably than others on the market."

PAZZAZ is a vigorous, semi-trailing series with large, vivid blooms. PAZZAZ NANO is a compact selection with gorgeous early color. While MEGA PAZZAZ features extra-large blooms in 10 vibrant colors and a unique twist pattern that command attention at retail and in the landscape. Its semi-trailing habit makes this series perfect for creating outstanding combos and mono containers.

Propagation Schedule

Average Time	Temperature	Hormone	Fertilization	Fungicide
4 weeks	Weeks 1 to 2 72 to 74F (22 to 23C)	No	Weeks 1 to 2 50 ppm N	Spray fungicide to control Botrytis and bacteria on the day of sticking
	Weeks 3 to 4 68 to 70F (20 to 21C)		Weeks 3 to 4 100 to 150 ppm N	Day of sticking and on Week 2

Rooting	pH	EC	Temp	Feed	Light	PGR	Fungicide	Comments
Week 1	5.8 to 6.2	0.80	72 to 74F (22 to 23C)	50 ppm N in mist	Additional lighting is not required	Daminozide as needed	Day of sticking	Feeding through mist
Week 2	5.8 to 6.2	0.80 to 0.90	72 to 74F (22 to 23C)	50 ppm N in mist	—	—	Second fungicide application	—
Week 3	5.8 to 6.2	0.90 to 1.0	Cool to 68 to 70F (20 to 21C)	Feed 100 ppm to 150 ppm	—	—	—	—
Week 4	5.8 to 6.2	1.0 to 1.2	68 to 70F (20 to 21C)	Feed 100 to 150 ppm	—	Daminozide as needed	—	—

Average Time	Temperature	Pinch/Daylength Modification	Fertilization	Plant Growth Regulator
5 to 6 weeks Average Day 5-in. (12-cm) pot	68 to 72F (20 to 22C)	Pinch 1 to 2 times Additional lighting will hasten flowering under short days	100 to 150 ppm N Soil EC 1.0 to 1.5 pH 5.8 to 6.2	Daminozide at 2,500 ppm
6 to 7 weeks 1 plant per pot 6.5 in. (15 cm)	68 to 72F (20 to 22C)	Pinch 1 to 2 times Additional lighting will hasten flowering under short days	100 to 150 ppm N Soil EC 1.0 to 1.5 pH 5.8 to 6.2	Daminozide at 2,500 ppm
7 to 9 weeks 3 plants per container 8-in. (20-cm)	68 to 72F (20 to 22C)	Pinch 1 to 2 times Additional lighting will hasten flowering under short days	100 to 150 ppm N Soil EC 1.0 to 1.5 pH 5.8 to 6.2	Daminozide at 2,500 ppm

Finishing	pH	EC	Temp	Feed	Light	PGR	Fungicide
Transplant to Week 4	5.8 to 6.2	1.0 to 1.2	68 to 72 F (20 to 22C)	Feed 100 to 150 ppm	—	Daminozide as needed	Drench fungicide after transplant
Week 5 to 12	5.8 to 6.2	1.2 to 1.5	68 to 72F (20 to 22C)	Feed 100 to 150 ppm	—	Daminozide at 2,500 ppm or tank mix of Daminozide/Uniconazole for finishing	—

height.

- Add Paclobutrizol at 2 ppm as a drench once to size if needed to hold in the finish pots.

Pest & disease control tips

Be sure to scout for aphids, thrips and whiteflies. Recommended control includes:

- Aphids: Acetamiprid, flonicamid, imidacloprid, dichlorvos
- Thrips: Methiocarb, acrinathrin, abamectin, dichlorvos, spinosad

Recommended disease control includes:

- Botrytis: Cyprodinil + fludioxonil, iprodione, polyoxin
- Pythium/Phytophthora: Propamocarb/mefenoxam
- Rhizoctonia: Azoxystrobin/etridiazole/fludioxonil/PCNB/triflumizole **GT**

Here are few tips for creating a practical early-season production program with MEGA PAZZAZ:

Propagation tips

Remove plants from their box immediately. This allows for air movement around the plants. This genera is a top priority for sticking, so be sure to stick cuttings promptly.

Pinching at Week 3 or at transplant can allow for improved branching.

Excessive misting can create delayed rooting and cause uneven rooting. Reduce mist as soon as possible.

Finishing tips

Maintaining warm temperatures allows plants to properly develop. Make sure to allow plants to dry completely between irrigation.

For PGR applications spray Daminozide to control

Need more information or want to create a custom program? Contact your Danziger representative today or visit DanzigerOnline.com.

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