

Top Shelf™ Series

The Top Shelf Series is ideal for Summer/Fall bulking culture, followed by a vernalization period. Plants have numerous flower clusters densely packed with florets of overlapping petals up to 1.5 in. (4 cm) in diameter. With a wide range of colors including bicolors, they have good mildew tolerance and stronger stems enabling them to hold up in shipping and have a longer retail shelf life. Available as bareroot, unrooted cuttings or liners including the Fast Finish™ program.

Flame[™] Series

Strong for commercial production, as well as home garden appeal, the Flame Series has increased branching with uniform flowering. All five varieties offer more flexibility in production by bulking and finishing in the same season, or finishing in the traditional Summer/Fall bulking and overwintering. The big, fragrant flowers bloom naturally as days lengthen and temperatures begin to rise in late Spring. Available as unrooted cuttings or liners including the Fast Finish[™] program.

Contact your Ball Seed sales rep or your Ball Ornamentals sales rep today for information on these Darwin Perennial products and more or call 800 879-BALL.



Culture

PHLOX 🐡 P. paniculata

Flame[™] Series

Height: 18 to 24 in. (45 to 60 cm) Amazing

Zone: 4 to 8

Bloom Time: June to August

• Light Pink 'Bareleven' PP11.805 • Lilac 'Barten' PP11.802 • Pink 'Bartwelve' PP11.804

• Purple 'Barfourteen' PP12,605 • White 'Bartwentynine' PP16,259

Top Shelf™ Series

Height: 15 to 20 in. (38 to 50 cm)

Zone: 4 to 8

Bloom Time: July to August

• 'Classic Cassis' PPAF • 'Cosmopolitan' PP19,603 • 'Grenadine Dream' PP19,183 • 'Piña Colada' PP19,968 • 'Pink Lady' PP20,802 • 'Purple Kiss' PP19,514 • 'Red Caribbean' PP20,803 • 'Strawberry Daiquiri' PPAF • 'Tequila Sunrise' PP20,800 • 'Watermelon Punch' PP19,610

Flame is a compact, well-branched, early flowering garden series that offers same-season bulking and flowering as well as powdery mildew tolerance. Another compact garden series, **Top Shelf** offers a wide range of brilliant colors specifically selected for good powdery mildew tolerance, and suitable for traditional perennial finishing regimes (mid to late Summer plantings).

6.0 - 6.5

EC

1.2 - 1.8 (SME)

Fertilizer

150ppm to 200ppm, low NH4

Propagation URC

A rooting hormone should be applied to promote early, uniform rooting. Rooted cuttings should be ready to transplant in 28 days. Rooting temperature is 72 to 76°F (22 to 24°C). Use moderate mist levels for 14 to 18 days

Transplant

Liners should be transplanted directly into finished containers. 1 plant per pot. Phlox paniculata are long day plants and require 14 hours of light for best flowering.

Flame Finish Time: Form	Container	Total Weeks	
Fast Finish™	1 gallon	8 to 10 weeks	
Liner	1 gallon	14 to 18 weeks	

Top Shelf Finish Time: Form	Container	Total Weeks
Fast Finish™	1 gallon	8 to 10 weeks
Liner	1 gallon	32 to 36 weeks, mid to late-Summer planting

Media

Use porous, well-drained media.

Temperature

Root Out: 65 to 72°F (18 to 22°C) **Growing:** 75 to 85°F (24 to 29°C) **Holding:** 35 to 45°F (2 to 7°C)

Light

High light/full sun.

800 879-BALL

Ball Horticultural Company 622 Town Road





Flame Light Pink





Flame Purple





Top Shelf 'Grenadine Dream



Top Shelf 'Purple Kiss'

Top Shelf 'Watermelon Punch'

Top Shelf 'Pink Lady

B-Nine can be applied at 3,750ppm if growing conditions cause stretch but typically not necessary due to the compact nature of these plants.

One to two pinches increases branching and subsequent flower count on the Flame Series. Do not pinch Top Shelf.

Vernalization

No vernalization required.

Bulking

Longer Summer bulking is recommended for Top Shelf to encourage increased branching and bloom for the following Summer.

Common Problems

Keep good air movement to avoid Powdery Mildew. Phlox Flame Series and Phlox Top Shelf Series are both PM tolerant. But, like all Phlox paniculata, not immune to the disease. Watch for aphids on new growth.

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 environmental growing 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.



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