

Riviera & Regatta Series Lobelia

*Compact Riviera is an Excellent Pack & Garden Performer...
Extra-Early Regatta Offers the Only Full Line of Trailing
Lobelias for Baskets & Planters!*

■ Compact, upright **Riviera** Lobelias are the market leader...earliest flowering, extensive color range, terrific pack & outdoor performance. Flowering about 15 days earlier than others, **Riviera** gives growers reduced bench time, while retailers get an extended selling season. The profusely flowering, mounded, 5-in. (13-cm) plants are great for beds, borders, containers and colour bowls.

■ Extra-early flowering **Regatta** Lobelias are the only full line of trailing lobelias! Flowering up to 4 weeks faster than the competition, Regatta is perfect for selling in bloom during Spring. The vigorous plants grow to about 6 to 8 in. (15 to 20 cm) tall, then cascade over the edges of hanging baskets and mixed containers.

■ **Riviera** and **Regatta** Lobelias are available in both multi-seed pellets (5 to 7 seeds per pellet) and raw seed. Contact your local distributor or call PanAmerican Seed at 800 231-4868 to order.

Lobelia erinus

Approximate seed count (raw): 820,000 to 1,300,000 S./oz. (29,000 to 45,000 S./g)

Plug Production

Note: Multi-seed pellets produce an average of 5 to 7 seedlings per pellet.

Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free plug medium with a pH of 5.5 to 6.5 and EC about 0.75 mmhos/cm (1:2 extraction).

Sowing

Do not cover the seed with vermiculite. If pelleted seed is used, ensure that the pellets are well-watered to allow them to dissolve.

Temperature

Germination: 70 to 76°F (21 to 24°C)

Cotyledon stage: 68 to 74°F (20 to 23°C)

True leaves: 66 to 72°F (19 to 22°C)

Hold plugs: 64 to 68°F (18 to 20°C)

Germination takes 4 to 6 days in a germination chamber.

Light

If Lobelia seed is sown when daylengths are less than 12 hours, flowering time will be delayed. Day extension to about 12 to 14 hours will speed flowering.

Fertilizer

Feed plugs from Stage 2 with a complete fertilizer at 75 to 100 ppm N.

Growth Regulators

No plant growth regulators are required.

Growing On to Finish

Container Size

Riviera Lobelia are best-suited to production in flats of 48 to 72 cells for color sales. **Regatta** Lobelia should also be started in flats, but final use should be for hanging baskets, mixed containers or borders.

Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free, soilless medium with a pH of 5.2 to 5.8.

Temperature

Riviera and **Regatta** Lobelias perform best in moderate climates. Night temperatures in the 50s to lower 60s (°F) produce better-toned crops. Day temperatures should be set between 66 to 72°F (19 to 22°C).

Light

Lobelias flower more freely when daylength is longer than 12 hours. Lighting plants in Winter when daylength is less than 12 hours speeds flowering. In later Spring, when plants are grown under higher temperatures, light shading helps to produce shorter and better-toned plants.

Fertilization

Lobelias are light to moderate feeders and perform best when a complete fertilizer is used at 150 to 200 ppm N. Reduce fertilizer rate at the end of the crop to keep the plants compact.

Growth Regulators

B-Nine has proven effective in controlling height in Lobelias. Use of foliar sprays at 3,000 to 5,000 ppm before the plants begin to elongate will produce nice compact basket for **Regatta** Lobelia. A rate of 2,500 ppm is generally enough to produce compact plants of the **Riviera** varieties.

Crop Scheduling

Crop time will vary depending on temperature, light intensity and daylength, as well as whether the plants are grown in the greenhouse or outdoors. **Regatta** Lobelia is about 7 to 10 days later to bloom than **Riviera** Lobelia.

Sow to transplant (288 plug tray): 4 to 5 weeks

Riviera transplant to finish: 5 to 6 weeks

Regatta transplant to finish: 6 to 7 weeks (flats),
8 to 10 weeks (baskets)

PanAmerican Seed

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