

Melissa officinalis Mandarinina

Life cycle	Perennial / Herbs
Family / Origin	Lamiaceae / North Africa, Asia and Europe
Popular uses	Containers and pots, perfect for garden, fragrance, rock garden, flavoring and in tea or potpourri
Mature plant height	35-45 cm (14-18")
Mature plant width	35-45 cm (14-18")
Pot size:	10-15 cm (4-6")
Plants per pot	1
Sun exposure	Sun / Partial shade
Water requirements	Reduced, avoid wet conditions
Flowering season	Summer
Media	Use a well-drained, porous media is best to prevent over watering pH 5.5-6.2 EC 0.5-1.4 (75-210 ppm N)
Growing temperature	For active growth 10-16°C (50-61°F) at night Days up to 16°C (61°F) A higher average day temperature will speed up the process
Light	N/A
Fertilizer needs	Balanced N:P:K fertilizer as needed recommended EC 1.4-1.8 (210-270 ppm N)
Crop time	17-22 weeks
Hardiness zone	Z 4-9



Description

Orange Balm, a vigorous, well-branched and mounding plant with an extraordinary orange scent

Growth regulators

not recommended for use on herbs

Common diseases

Rust, Leafspots and Fusarium
Avoid wet foliage at night due to Botrytis

Common pests

Aphids and Thrips

Pinching

No need, although frequent cutting will promote regrowth

Plug Production

Seed forms	Profi-seed
Seed count	1.250 seeds/gram (35.500 seeds/oz); varies by lot!
Recommended plug size	288-128
Seeds cell	3-4
Vermiculite cover	Normal
Stage 1 Germination	Media: pH 5.5 to 6.3 Media: EC 0.5-1.0 (75-150 ppm N) Moisture: keep medium saturated Growing temperature: 18-20°C (64-68°F)
Stage 2 Stem and cotyledon	Reduce moisture levels to achieve optimal root penetration and prevent fungal diseases Avoid wet foliage after nightfall Temperature: 18-20°C (64-68°F) EC: 0.5-1.0 (75-150 ppm N)
Stage 3 Growth and development	Moisture: reduce moisture levels and allow medium to dry slightly between waterings, but do not allow plants to wilt Temperature: 16-18°C (61-64°F) Fertilizers: EC 1.4-1.8 (210-270 ppm N)
Stage 4 Ready for transplanting	Moisture: reduce moisture levels and allow medium to dry slightly between watering but do not allow plants to wilt Temperature: 13-15°C (55-59°F) Fertilizers: see stage 3
Plug crop time	6-7 weeks
Approximate finish time	11-15 weeks
Special tips	Once the plants are rooted, watering can be limited The crop needs good air circulation in well-ventilated conditions