

TECHNICAL GUIDE

Melinis nerviglumis Savannah

Plug Culture

Germination: Optimum conditions for seedling development, beginning on the day of sowing until radicle emergence. Expect germination in 7-14 days.

Cover: No cover is required.

Sowing method: 4-6 seeds per plug.

Media: pH 5.8-6.2; EC <1.0

Temperature: 20-22 °C (68-72 °F) until radicle emergence, then reduce to 18-20 °C (64-68 °F) during day and night.

Moisture: Begin with a wet (4) for the first days of germination. Alternate between moisture levels moist (3) and medium (2) to maintain a good wet to dry cycle. Avoid overwatering.

Light: Supplemental lighting is optional in the plug stage. If desired, provide light levels up to 35,000 lx.

Fertilizer: Maintain an EC <1.0. Use a balanced fertilizer. Feeding should start <100 ppm N.

Growth Regulators: Not required.

Growing On

Media: pH 5.5-6.5; EC 1.0-1.2

Temperature: 12-15 °C (54-58 °F) during day and night.

Moisture: Alternate between moisture levels moist (3) and medium (2) to maintain a good wet to dry cycle. Avoid overwatering.

Light: Lighting is optional, but supports the plant growth, especially in spring.

Fertilizer: Feed moderate with 150-200 ppm N using a balanced fertilizer.

Growth Regulators: Not required.

Timing & Positioning Charts

Plug Crop Time	
288 tray	6-8 wks
Finished Crop Time (from 288 tray)	
10-12 cm (4-5") pots (1")	13-14 wks
15-19 cm (6-7") pots (3")	14-15 wks

*plants per pot

Moisture Codes

Saturated (5) Water is easily observed when finger is pressed on cell. Water moves freely from the top of the plug to the bottom.

Wet (4) Media looks black and is not glistening. The media feels wet to the touch but there is very little water movement.

Moist (3) Water is not easily visible. When finger is pressed on the cell there is very little movement from top to bottom.

Medium (2) Media is not black, but now looks medium brown. There is no water movement when pressed with finger.

Dry (1) Media has changed color to a very light brown and is dry to the touch.

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