



### Propagation of Poinsettia in Preforma

#### Physical properties:

Poinsettia cuttings root well in a media providing them with good air pore space (ca. 20%), good water holding capacity (ca. 50%) and the right physical support for the cutting. The Preforma Plant Plug from Jiffy is a perfectly suited media for rooting the Poinsettia crop providing the cutting all of the above characteristics. The pre-formed Preforma rooting plugs prohibit fines from plugging valuable pore space, instead keeping the pores open to provide good air space, avoiding saturating the media, increasing the speed of rooting as well as decreasing fungus gnat and other disease problems.

#### Misting and ventilation:

Frequent misting will be required, as the foliage of a Poinsettia cutting needs a film of moisture over its leaves, protecting it from wilting during the early stages of propagation. The frequency and duration of the mist cycles will depend on the misting system installed as well as the greenhouse conditions where the cuttings are being propagated.

Poinsettia cuttings stuck in a Preforma Plant Plug will benefit from the pre-formed plugs ability to provide the

best drainage possible, even under the most rigid misting regimes. As a 'misting' rule of thumb, mist enough to prevent excessive wilting of the cuttings keeping in mind that 'over-misting' increases the risk of disease development and can result in leaching of nutrients and stretching of the cuttings.

Reduce the mist after the cuttings have callused (around 14 days from sticking date) taking care to not let the cuttings wilt. Ventilation during the early stages of propagation should be minimized to avoid dehydration of the cuttings; the ventilation can be increased once rooting of the cuttings has begun. The increased air circulation will secure the cuttings will be acclimated to the harsher finishing conditions. After about 21 days the Poinsettia cuttings should have a well-developed root system and will be ready for transplanting.

At transplanting time, another benefit of Preforma will come to light as all Poinsettia cuttings in the strip/tray can be transplanted at an earlier time, even if some of the plugs seemingly are not completely rooted. The binder in the Preforma plug will keep the plug intact during transplanting, even if transplanting equipment is used. Once transplanted, Preforma guarantees fast take-off of each and every rooted cutting, resulting in the best uniform crop possible.

#### Preforma benefits:

- Optimum drainage, even under heavy misting regimes
- Fast rooting / fast take-off after transplanting vs. foam products
- Uniform rooting
- Made for Automation



**For further information or to arrange a trial of Poinsettia in Preforma, please contact your territory manager or use the contact options below.**

Preforma Plant Plugs from Jiffy are a perfectly suited media for rooting Poinsettia providing the cutting all of the essential characteristics.