

# Grower's Facts

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## Lobelia

*Lobelia erinus pendula Regatta Marine Blue*

**PLANTATION:** Sow the seeds 6-7 weeks before the last frost. Keep the temperature around 21-22 °C. Germination time is between 5-10 days. Do not cover the seed. If coated seeds are used, make sure the seeds are watered well to allow the coating to dissolve.

**SOIL: Indoor:** A well-drained, porous sowing media is best to prevent overwatering.

**Outdoor:** Moist soil.

### PLANTING:

**Step 1:** plow the soil about 30 cm (12 inches). Add an equal part of potting soil and mix well. Dig a hole approximately the same length as the container and about 1 ½ to 3 times the width.

**Step 2:** slightly squeeze the container, tap out the plant, and delicately free the roots. If the roots are too dense, liberate the fibers by inserting a knife or a transplanter. Separate the roots carefully, and then place in the hole.

\* **Good to know:** Use an organic bone meal or a «soil activator» when transplanting to stimulate root development. Follow the instructions for use on the package.

Fill up the hole with garden soil. Slightly press the soil around the base of the plant to favor the contact between the roots and the soil. Water regularly every 2 or 3 days until the soil is well compacted.

**Note:** It requires a very sunny location in a cool temperate region but shaded in the middle of the day in a warmer climate. Lobelia erinus is easy to grow in simple potting soil or in any rich, non-calcareous, and not too acidic soil. Regular additions of water without the roots soaking in a bowl of water for more than a few hours. When grown in containers fertilize every 15 days with a fertilizer rich in potassium.