

# Dave's Tips

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SUCCESSFUL GROWING ADVICE BY DAVID KIRWAN, PHOENIX FOLIAGE, INC.

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## No. 11 **MUSA TROPICANA** "Tight growing dwarf Banana"

### Applications

- A true dwarf cultivar of Musa this "mini" Banana requires NO PGR's. It can be used as a stand-alone specimen plant or a "thriller" center piece in a combination container.

- This is a plant that will grow to 'fill its space'. Hence, it will make a nice pot of almost any size, from 2" to 14". For smaller pots, keep spacing tighter, and for bigger pots, give the pots more space.

### Growing Tips

- Zones- Tropical 9 & 10
- Water - Soil must be kept wet but not soaking. Do not allow soil to become too dry, this can cause leaf burn and wilting.

- Soil - Medium density peat mix with good water holding capacity and good drainage

- Fertilizer - 20 - 10 - 20 with 1.2 EC is the best in production phase. Once the plants are to size, use at 15-10-30 at 1,2 EC.

- Temperatures - Minimum of 50F will insure no cool damage, 95F is very tolerable. Ideal production temperatures is 68F - 86F.

- Light levels - 1500 to 2000 foot candles is best - but will tolerate higher light levels.

- Humidity - 60% - 80% with good air circulation is the best.

- Pests - This crop is fairly resistant to problems, care should be taken to watch for Spider Mites and Cut Worms.

### Other Information

The plants will grow to "fill the space", therefore heights can be controlled by pot size and spacing.

POT GROWTH RATES	
Pot Size	Weeks
2"	4-6
4"	8-10
6"	12-14
8"	16-18
10"	20-22
12"	24-26
14"	28-30



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