

PERENNIAL

PROPAGATION

Aster Island Series

Aster dumosus (Symphyotrichum dumosum)



TRAY & ROOTING

Form	Unrooted Cuttings (URC)
Rooting Hormone	Yes
Tray Size(s)	72, 105
Plants Per Cell	1
Wks. From Stick To Transplant	4-5
Pinch?	Yes
Days from stick to pinch	14-21

FERTILITY

Fertilize Through Mist?	50-75 ppm N
Fertilizer Rate	100-150 ppm N (20-6-22 or 22-5-16 [15-0-15 under low-light conditions])
EC Range	Moderate: (2.0-3.5 mS via SME)
pH Range	5.4-5.8

TEMPERATURE

Average Soil Temperature	22-26°C
Average Air Temperature	22-26°C

IRRIGATION

Irrigation Frequency	Level 3: Keep media moderately moist with mild dry cycles
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LIGHT

Supplemental	Yes
Benefits From Shade?	No

POTENTIAL DISEASES

powdery mildew, root and stem rot, bacterial leaf spot

POTENTIAL PESTS

whitefly, aphids

PGR SUGGESTIONS

- Optional 300-500 ppm Florel (3.9% Ethephon)

CULTIVAR LIST

Bahamas, Barbados, Samoa, Tonga



'Island Samoa'

TIPS

- Can be grown under natural daylengths or by manipulating the photoperiod.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU GROW

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FINISHING

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VERNALIZATION

Vernalization Required? **No**

Vernalization Duration
Minimum **N/A**

Vernalization Temperature **N/A**

CONTAINER SIZE	PLANTS PER POT	TRANSPLANT TO FINISH (WEEKS)
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10-12 cm	1	7-9
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15-16 cm	2	7-9
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FERTILITY

Fertilizer Rate 200-250 ppm N (20-6-22 or 22-5-16
[15-0-15 under low-light conditions])

EC Range **High: (3.5-5 mS via SME)**

pH Range **5.4-5.8**

TEMPERATURE

Day Temperature **18-24°C**

Night Temperature **13-18°C**

IRRIGATION

Irrigation Frequency **Level 3: Keep media moderately
moist with mild dry cycles**

LIGHT

Photoperiodic
requirements **Short Day: Less than 8 hours
daily**

Supplemental? **Photoperiodic Control**

Benefits From Shade? **Photoperiodic Control**

PINCHING

Finishing Pinch? **Optional**

Transplant to pinch (days) **14-21**

POTENTIAL DISEASES

powdery mildew, root and stem rot, bacterial leaf spot

POTENTIAL PESTS

whitefly, aphids,

PGR SUGGESTIONS

- 1-2 ppm Bonzi (0.4% Paclobutrazol) drench as needed
- 5-6 ppm Sumagic (0.055% Uniconazole) as needed



'Island Barbados'

TIPS

- Drip irrigation and proper spacing helps to prevent stretching and promote a compact growth habit.

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FEATURES AND BENEFITS

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KEY INFORMATION

First Year Flowering?	Yes
Bloom Time	Early Autumn to Late Autumn
Exposure	Full Sun
Hardiness Zone	4-11
Height	15-30 cm
Width	30-60 cm

DESCRIPTION

Perennial asters are back in popular demand. One of the best fall perennials featuring a compact mounding habit and a floriferous bloomset rivalling that of garden mums but with the low-maintenance benefits of a perennial. *Aster dumosus* was reclassified as *Symphyotrichum dumosum* but is still commonly referred to as the former.

CONSUMER APPEAL

- A fantastic plant for wildlife, asters attract bees and butterflies while in bloom and serve as a food source (via their seeds) for birds during the winter months.
- 'Island' asters are tolerant of both deer and salt. Their native vigor mesh with these characteristics to create a very robust perennial.

GARDEN ATTRIBUTES

- The dense canopy and absurd flower-power make this an excellent border plant. Additionally, asters work well in cottage gardens, pollinator gardens, and as cut flowers.
- 'Island' should be sheered to the ground in early spring to allow new tissue to photosynthesize and to promote a densely flowering mass.
- 'Island' Asters are long-lived perennials that prefer moist but well drained soil. They can tolerate clays soils as long as they receive full sun and are not overwatered.

NATIVITY

United States and Canada

COMPANION PLANTS

Gaillardia, *Coreopsis*, *Eupatorium*(*Ageratina*), *Solidago*, *Veronica*, *Muehlenbeckia*, *Penstemon*

COMMON NAME(S)

rice button aster, busy aster



'Island Tonga'

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