



TAKII EUROPE B.V.

NEWSLETTER HELIANTHUS 'SUNNY SMILE' F1



Sunny Smile keeps smiling

Takii started trialing Sunny Smile F1 (TH415) since 2003. So far, many of the reports commented this variety as a very positive item. This variety is an improvement of Big Smile.

Characteristics:

Hybrid F1, pollen-less, dwarf and compact growth, disc colour is darker than Big Smile, branching habit (Big Smile has almost no branching habit); golden yellow petals, with a 20% higher # of petals. The attractive dark disc is still flat at aging. Sunny Smile will flower in approx. 55 days under optimal condition.

From March 2005 onwards this variety is available for testing on growers scale. Please, indicate us how many seeds you need for trial purpose?





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This year we made two comparisons at TE of Helianthus Sunny Smile. First sowing was in June and second sowing was in August

1 st . Sowing	Sunny Smile (TH415)	Big Smile
Sowing date	09-06-04	09-06-04
Planting date	23-06-04 14 days	23-06-04 14 days
Flowering	10-08-04 62 days	03-08-04 55 days
PGR Alar 2 g/l	1x at 13/07	2x at 13/07 27/07
Plant height open flower	25 – 30 cm	32 – 40 cm
Plant height in buds stage	19 – 23 cm	25 – 32 cm
Stage 01 closed buds	0%	11%
Stage 02 open buds	25%	18%
Stage 03 start flowering	25%	25%
Stage 04 open flower	50%	25%
Stage 05 open flower, old with pollen shown	0%	21%

2 nd . Sowing	Sunny Smile (TH415)	Big Smile
Sowing date	17-08-04	17-08-04
Planting date	31-08-04 14 days	31-08-04 14 days
Flowering	29-10-04 62 days	25-10-04 58 days
PGR Alar 2 g/l	2x	2x
Plant height open flower	22 – 25 cm	24 – 28 cm
Plant height in buds stage	18 – 20 cm	20 – 24 cm

Conclusion and characteristics:

- Earliness: Sunny Smile is an early flowering variety.
- For late sowing Sunny Smile and Big smile are preferable in comparison with Pacino and Solino
- PGR: Sunny Smile needs less treatment of Alar
- Length: Sunny Smile is shorter and more suitable for pot plant growers
- Uniformity: Less stages at harvest, therefore more uniform and homogen
- Pollen less: Sunny Smile is pollen less
- Colour of Petals: Golden Yellow
- Colour of Flowerdisc: Disc of Sunny Smile is deeper brown
- Colour of foliage: Sunny Smile has darker green leaves; and has a longer shelf life
- Side shoots: TH415 shows small buds in the leaves. Big Smile doesn't. To stimulate uniform branching, we advise to germinate first in a plug. After 7 – 10 days transplant in 6, 9 or 12 cm pot.



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Sunny Smile with side shoots



Overlook Sunny Smile after sorting



Right: Sunny Smile more Compact



Left: Sunny Smile



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Sowing date: 17 august 2004

Flowering Date:

Big Smile 25 October (58 days)

Sunny Smile 29 October (62 days)

Pacino Cola no open flowers seen, only 4 buds coloured

Pacino Gold no open flowers seen, only green buds

Solino no open flowers seen, only green buds