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Bright Lights Swiss Chard Hydroponic Grow Guide

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Salve Regina University Hydroponic Growing Guide

Bright Lights Swiss Chard (Beta Vulgaris) -EGS 3

Jayla Anderson

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Bright Lights Swiss Chard (Beta Vulgaris)

Other variants: Charbell Swiss Chard, Fordhook Giant Swiss Chard, Heart of Gold Swiss Chard, Peppermint Swiss Chard, Rhubarb Swiss Chard, Oriol Swiss Chard

Seed Source: Johnny Seeds Catalog, Product ID: 703D

Propagation: Single seed planted in rockwool cube small in seed tray

Grow System: EGS2 and EGS3

Optimal Nutrient Range (ppm): 850 – 950

Optimal Ph Range: 6.0 – 6.5

Target ppm: 1250

Light: 13 hours

Dark: 9 hours



Nutrients used: 1:1.5 ratio of Floragro

Target pH: 6.5

pH buffer solution used: General Hydroponics pH Up & pH Down

Lamps: T5's and LED's

Propagation:

Days Dark: 5

Days under Light: 9

Transferred to EGS 2 and EGS 3 Grow Systems on day 14

First Harvest Day: Day 30

Growing: Hydroponically grown Bright Lights Chard does very well in the hydroponics systems with appropriate and consistent lighting, pH, and ppm levels. After initial growth and first harvest, the leaves grow back quickly and can be harvested again with similar yield in 2 weeks' time. It is important to note that chard must be harvested before the leaves reach the height of grow lights, although grow lights can be raised to compensate. The leaves can grow up to 18 inches in length.

Special Considerations for the Future:

- Harvest before the leaves touch lights to avoid burns on the tops of the leaf.
- When harvesting cut the leaves as close to the bottom as possible to encourage growth.