

ORBITEC VEGGIE helps to bring a little bit of Earth to outer space

Zinnia plants being grown in the ORBITEC VEGGIE system on the International Space Station (ISS) are beginning to flower. Zinnia seeds were sent to the space station with the VEGGIE system aboard a Space X rocket in September of 2014. Zinnias were selected because the flowers are showy and do not fall apart as they age, which would result in flower parts floating around the crew environment. These Zinnia plants follow two prior grow outs of lettuce plants in the VEGGIE system.

Below are some tweets from Astronaut Scott Kelly from the ISS:



Scott Kelly ✓
@StationCDRKelly

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[#SpaceFlower](#) out in the sun for the first time! [#YearInSpace](#)



RETWEETS
6,683

LIKES
11,478



11:16 AM - 17 Jan 2016





Scott Kelly 
@StationCDRKelly

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First ever flower grown in space makes its debut! [#SpaceFlower](#) [#zinnia](#) [#YearInSpace](#)



RETWEETS
31,005

LIKES
39,513



10:00 AM - 16 Jan 2016

