

Grower's Facts

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Columbine

Aquilegia x cultorum McKana Giants Mix

PLANTATION: Indoor: It is suggested to sow 10 weeks before planting outside. Sow seeds on the surface in pots or trays. Cover the seeds with a light layer of vermiculite. Maintain the temperature around 30 ° C during the day and lower the temperature at night at 21 ° C. Germination time is between 14-30 days. Put the pot in the water until the soil is moist and drain it. After sowing, do not use light as this facilitates germination. Keep the surface of the compost moist but not waterlogged. Always place the pots in water: never water on top of the seeds.

Outdoor: Find a cooler part of the garden that benefits from dappled shade. If you have a lot of seeds, start by sprinkling the seeds directly on the ground in late summer. Rake so that the seeds are covered with a small amount of soil. The seeds will germinate the following spring.

SOL: Indoor: Well-drained, porous seedling soil to prevent overwatering.

Outdoor: Well-drained soil.

CULTURALS PRACTICES: Feeding is unnecessary unless the soil is exceptionally poor. When the flowers are finished, around the end of June, cut the stalks off and let the leaves do their stuff without the distraction of drying spikes of the stem.

Lift and divide large clumps in early spring and apply a generous 5cm to 7 cm (2 to 3 in) mulch of well-rotted manure or garden compost around the plant. Divided specimens may take some time to establish since they do not like having their roots disturbed. The formation of seeds will shorten the productive lifespan of the plant, so it is best to remove the spent flowers promptly. Columbines tend to lose vitality after 4 to 5 years and are best replaced at that time.