

Grower's Facts

W.H.PERRON 

Mexican hat

Ratibida columnifera Red Midget



63-7146-010

PLANTATION: Indoor: Put the seeds in a damp paper towel then in a ziplock bag in the fridge for 2 weeks before planting. Do not cover the small seeds, but tightly press then into the earth. Start indoors eight weeks before last frost. Seeds need a temperature of 20-21 °C. Light promotes germination. Seeds germinate in 14–21 days.

Outdoor: Direct sow in late fall, pressing into the surface of the soil since this plant needs light to germinate. For spring planting, mix the seeds with moist sand and store in the fridge for 15 days before planting. Keep the soil lightly moist until germination, which usually takes 3–4 weeks. The seeds can also be started indoors 8–10 weeks before planting in spring. Keep seedlings lightly moist and transplant them as soon as they have developed several leaves.

SOIL: Indoor: A well-drained, porous sowing media is best to prevent over watering.

Outdoor: Fairly dry soil.

CULTURALS PRACTICES: Water seedlings regularly until they become established, and control weeds. When grown from seed, these plants usually begin blooming in their second year. Mature plants tolerate drought well and flourish in fairly dry soil, though they will benefit from occasional watering in dry weather. The blooming period tends to be longer with occasional watering. Mature plants can be divided every 2-3 years for healthy growth. This plant attracts butterflies and repels deer, as well as growing well in rocky or sandy. It makes an excellent choice for hot, dry areas. Will reseed.