

QUICK REFERENCE PLANTING GUIDE

LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE	Full to part sun.
USDA HARDINESS ZONES	3 to 8.
PLANT TYPE	Perennial.
PLANTING DISTANCE IN-GROUND	At least 24 inches apart.
CONTAINER SIZE	One plant per 12 inch or larger container.
MATURE HEIGHT/SPREAD	20 to 30 inches tall with an 18 to 24 inch spread.
BLOOM TIME	Late spring to summer.
TIME TO REACH MATURITY	12 to 24 months.
FACTS OF NOTE	Deer resistant. Attracts butterflies. Makes an excellent cut flower.



Thank you for your order.

Your satisfaction is of primary concern to us. Please use the following resources for questions regarding your order:

- cottagefarmsdirect.com
- help@cottagefarmsdirect.com
- facebook.com/cottagefarmsdirect
- @cottagefarms
- pinterest.com/cottagefarms
- @cottagefarmsdirect
- 888-593-3644
- 9960 Padgett Switch Rd.
Irvington, Alabama 36544

Cottage Farms' Guarantee

We aren't happy if you aren't happy. Cottage Farms warrants its perennials for one year and annuals for 90 days from the time of the shipment. If for any reason you are dissatisfied, Cottage Farms will replace your plant with a similar or comparable one at no charge. If your replacement is not available or it is too late in the season to ship, it will ship the following shipping season.

Caution: Do not assume any plant is safe to eat. Only parts of plants expressly grown to be eaten should be considered edible. As with any product that is not food, care should be taken to make sure that small children and pets do not ingest any part of a plant that is not expressly grown to be eaten.

Unless specifically stated, this product is intended for ornamental horticultural use only and is not intended for consumption or ingestion by humans or pets. Most plants are harmless but some contain toxic substances which can cause adverse health effects. Furthermore, some individuals and some animals are sensitive or allergic to certain plants and precautions should be taken to limit or avoid physical contact with particular plants. Some plants have thorns or spines that can be painful if handled.

**In case of ingestion, contact a poison control center immediately.
1-800-222-1222**

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Oriental Poppies

*Image on cover is representative of the type of plant(s) in this offer and not necessarily indicative of actual size or color for the included variety.

OUT OF THE BOX

ORIENTAL POPPIES

Your plants have been shipped to you in bare root form. Please remove the plants from the packaging right away and plant them as soon as possible following the planting instructions below. If it is not possible to plant them right away, follow these important steps.

1. Place the plants in a cool, dark place such as a refrigerator, unheated garage or basement.
2. Keep the roots moist by using a spray bottle to mist them.

Note: Occasionally, bare root plants may arrive with a small amount of mold on them. This is caused by temperature changes encountered in shipping and does not harm the plants. As long as the bare root divisions are firm, simply wipe any mold off with a paper towel and plant them.



SHIPPED AS BARE ROOT DIVISIONS.

SOIL PREPARATION

We recommend having your soil tested periodically by your local County Extension Office (www.nifa.usda.gov/extension or by calling 1-800-333-4636). A soil test can determine if your soil needs any amendments to enhance the growth and performance of your plants.

Ideal garden soil is easy to dig in and drains well while still holding the nutrients and water vital to plant growth. To prepare a bed for in-ground planting, spade or till the soil to a depth of roughly 12-18 inches. Next, spread a 2-4 inch layer of organic matter such as compost, shredded leaves or peat moss over the soil and mix well.

PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

Dig a hole at least twelve inches deep and twice as wide as the crown (the area where the root mass meets the foliage) of each bareroot division. Build a small mound of soil in the bottom of the hole, then spread the roots over the mound. Cover the plant with soil so that three inches of soil covers the crown. Firm the soil around the crown and water thoroughly.

CONTINUING CARE

WATERING

Adequate and consistent watering is essential during your plant's first year in the garden. Infrequent, long soakings of water that thoroughly saturate the soil are more effective than frequent, light applications of water.

Due to variable geographical and environmental conditions, a specific watering schedule is difficult to define. However, as a rule of thumb, you should not allow the soil or the original root ball to completely dry out. During the first summer, you may need to water as often as every few days in periods of drought and extreme summer heat. To determine if your plant needs water, dig a few inches into the soil next to the plant. If the soil is dry 2-3 inches below the surface, it is time to water.

Over-watering can be as damaging as under-watering. Be sure that the area surrounding your plant has adequate drainage to move water away from the plant. If you choose to plant in a container, always select one with drainage holes to prevent your plant's roots from sitting in water.

PRUNING

Remove spent flowers as blooms fade to promote continuous flowering. Clip off any dead, damaged or unsightly growth as needed to maintain a tidy appearance. Oriental poppies go dormant each summer after they have finished blooming. At that time, the foliage will begin to die back and can be cut down to the soil. New growth will emerge in fall and persist over winter.

CONTINUING CARE (Continued)

FEEDING

Feed your plants once every 2-3 weeks during the growing season with a water-soluble fertilizer. Discontinue feeding after September 1st so your plant can harden off for winter dormancy. Resume fertilizing when new growth appears in spring.

MULCHING

Apply a 2-4 inch layer of shredded bark, compost, leaves, straw or other organic matter around your plants to promote moisture retention, maintain even soil temperatures and discourage weed growth. Replenish the mulch as needed.

WEEDING

Keep the area around your plants free of weeds. Weeds compete with surrounding plants for food, water and light. Walk around the garden periodically and pull weeds, including the roots, as soon as you see them.

WINTERIZING

Watering thoroughly in late fall will greatly enhance your plant's cold tolerance once the ground has frozen.

Poppies are winter hardy, but will benefit from mulching in very cold areas. The time to winterize your plants is in late fall. When winterizing your plants, keep in mind that the root system is the most vulnerable to cold damage. Mulch by mounding a 6-8 inch layer of shredded bark, compost, leaves, straw or other organic material over the crown of each plant.

In very cold areas, containerized plants can be brought into an unheated, protected area such as a garage or cellar before temperatures drop below freezing. Check soil moisture every 2-3 weeks and water as needed during winter.

In spring, remove mulch from in-ground plantings. Containerized plants should be moved back out into the garden sunlight where they will begin to repeat their yearly garden performance.