

CELOSIA 'PARFAIT RUBY'

(Celosia argentea spicata)

Productive bouquet filler or accent flower.

Dark rose, arrow-shaped plumes. 5-8cm textural flower spikes on full, branching plants can stand alone in a bouquet, be used as filler, or make a grand statement in the flower garden. A sweet and sturdy addition to boutonnières. Excellent vase life. Also known as wheat celosia, and red fox.

DAYS TO GERMINATION:

8-14 days at 21-27°C. Bottom water or mist lightly to avoid displacing seeds and soil.

SOWING:

Transplant (recommended) - Sow into preferred seedling container, 6-8 weeks before last frost. Light is required for germination; cover very lightly to hold seeds in place. Grow seedlings at 17-20°C. Harden off and transplant out after last frost. Direct seed only in locations with a long growing season. Sow ½cm deep after last frost. Pinching is recommended to encourage branching. Low temperatures and less than 12 hours of light can cause premature flowering. To pinch, when plants are 15-30cm tall, use your thumb and index finger or sterilized scissors to remove the growing point.

LIGHT PREFERENCE:

Sun

PLANT SPACING:

15-30cm

STEM LENGTH:

60-65cm

VASE LIFE:

7-14 days. Ideal storage temperature 2-5°C

HARVEST:

Celosia is exceptional as a cut flower and can be used both fresh and dried. Fresh - Harvest when the flowers are fully developed, and stems are firm at the base of the bloom. Dried - Harvest at the same stage of growth as you would for fresh flowers. Remove all the foliage and hang in a dark, well-ventilated location to dry.

SOIL REQUIREMENTS:

Well-drained, moist, fertile soil high in organic matter. pH of 6.0-7.0 preferred.

