

### GROWTH DESCRIPTION HOSTA

Herewith we would like to offer you our catalogue of Hosta. Heemskerk Perennials is specialist in Hemerocallis, Hosta, Iris and Paeonia. Outside this range we can also offer other unique varieties of perennial species.

### CONTAINER (POT, 19 CM , 3 LITRE) CULTIVATION DESCRIPTION HOSTA

#### Storage

The Hosta comes in dormancy, so without leaves and roots on a length of 15 cm. They may be shortened to 6 cm, if for potting the root length is a problem. As long as the Hosta are at rest they may be delayed for planting, if the rest period during or after transport (by temperature increase) is broken planting should not be delayed too long. The less delay they encounter with the regrowth.

If you get the Hosta but can't plant directly, the roots prefer a cool storage (0 ° C), a dark place and prevent the roots to dry out.

#### Planting and care

Hosta grows in any good moisture soil having with a pH of +/- 6 to 7. Plant the top of the Hosta just below the ground. Provide a clean growing medium (soil). Place the pot, preferably on a container field, P19, 25 pieces per m<sup>2</sup>. Make sure the plants are kept moist at first, so the roots can develop optimally. Once the plants are well rooted, the ground can occasionally slightly be drier for a stronger plant.

#### Fertilizing

We fertilize the Hosta in the spring and after flowering light with a compound fertilizer (12N-10P-18K). The amount of fertilizer is to express the amount of element per acre (100 m<sup>2</sup>) best.

The best ratio for the Hosta is:

- 1.5 kg of Nitrogen (N) for the plant growth
- 0.9 kg of Phosphorus (P) for the root formation. Phosphorus is found in the form of phosphate.
- 2 kg of Potassium (K) For the rich bloom makes Potassium (K).
- 0.75 kg of Magnesium (MgO) For the formation of chlorophyll and assimilation.

The amount of nitrogen sets the maximum amount of mixed fertiliser used. If there are deficits in the other elements after spreading a mixed fertilizer you can use fertilizers such as:

- Patent Kali, contains 30% Kali and 10% Magnesium
- Triple Super Phosphate contains 38% Phosphate
- Kieseriet contains 27% magnesium

## Water

Watering in Hosta is very important. The large leaves evaporate plenty of water. Provide clean water, without lime. Preferably, collected rainwater. (Ground and surface water contains lime and lime sets of on the leaves which is not pretty.)

A hard water jet damages the blue/green Hosta varieties easily. With a fine mist you won't have that problem. Please note the timing of watering. Don't water the plant when the sun shines as the drops will work as a magnifying glass and will burn the leaf surface causing brown or yellow spots. It's best to water early in the morning. At night has the disadvantage that you attract snails, because of the humidity.

## Pests and diseases

The Hosta is a perennial plant that is not so much affected by pests and diseases.

Most Hosta species are disease-free, but there are still sometimes things to look out for:

- Virus infection: This shows itself as a mosaic on the leaves, a yellow colour is typical on the larger and smaller veins, but there may be yellow spots on the leaves that are completely yellow or discoloured.
  - Hart rot: This occurs in plants that are grown in warm climates or under glass. The leaves turn yellow and fall off. A fungicide is it advisable.
  - Leaf spot disease: Caused by fungi Alternaria and Anthracnose. This can be controlled by using fungicides, two or three times (Benomyl or Thiram) with 14 days between each application.
  - Snails: These can give a lot of damage to the plant. You have naked slugs and snails, but are easy to control. You can use slug pellets. Preventive you can sprinkle these in places where slugs hide during the day. Slugs love cool and damp places. The grains usually contain metaldehyde or methiocarb the last one usually works best. They are however very toxic to humans and must be handled carefully.
- Some pesticides:

1) Mesurool: blue granulate, active substance: 4%, 3-5 grams per 10 m<sup>2</sup> (+ - 20 grains per m<sup>2</sup>)

2) Escar-go: light blue slug pellets, active substance: 1% ferric phosphate. NOT HARMFUL TO HUMANS AND ANIMALS. Dosage 1 teaspoon (approximately 5 grams = / m<sup>2</sup>)

3) Metald: pink granules, active substance: 6% metaldehyde. Dosage: 7.5 grams per 10m<sup>2</sup> (approx. = 35 grains / m<sup>2</sup>)

- Taxus Beetle: It's the larvae that could damage the roots. They are C-shaped, cream - to ivory and about half as long as a thumbnail. The adult animals (beetles) feed on the edges of the leaves.