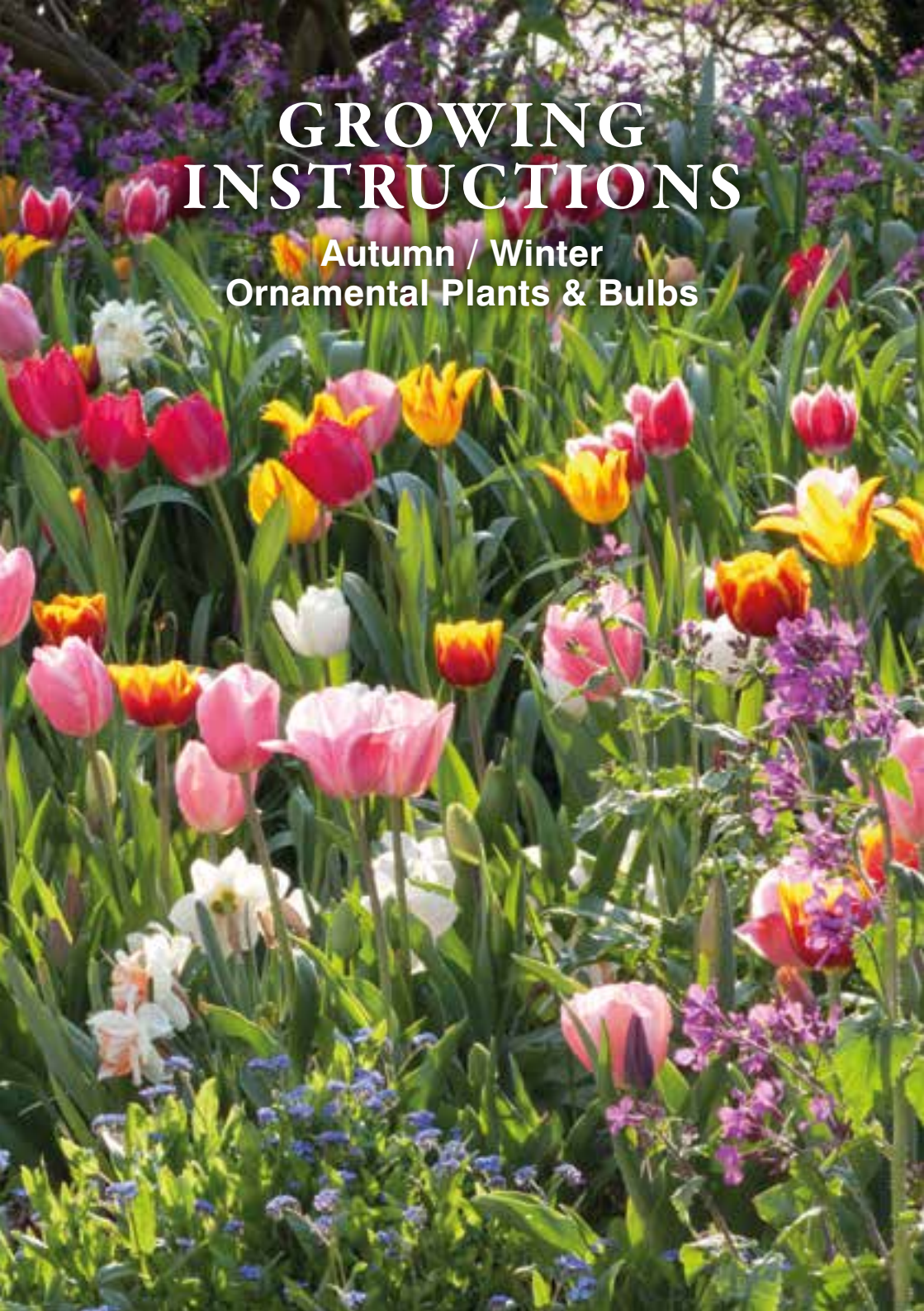

GROWING INSTRUCTIONS

Autumn / Winter
Ornamental Plants & Bulbs

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR ORDER!

Your plants & bulbs have been carefully grown for you by our specialist nursery team and sent at just the right time for planting out or potting on. Please check them carefully and contact us within seven days if there are any problems.

GROWING TIPS:

- Unpack your order immediately and stand plants upright.
- If plants are dry, stand the trays, pots, or roots for a few minutes in water, until the compost is fully moist again. You may notice a slight yellowing of any foliage, but this is quite natural after they have been in a dark box and is nothing to be worried about – they will soon recover.
- Stand young plants in a bright, warm position, out of direct sunlight. Having been carefully nurtured under ideal glasshouse conditions, your plants will be sensitive to scorching sunshine.
- Choose and prepare the area and soil ahead of planting. Remove weeds, dig in compost or manure, add dressing of a balanced fertiliser, and break the soil down to a crumbly texture.
- Avoid planting when soils are too wet or frozen.
- When planting up your containers and baskets, mix water-retaining gel granules and a slow-release fertiliser with the compost. Together they will save you time with both feeding and watering later in the season.
- Keep all plants well-watered until they are fully established.

GARDEN READY ANNUAL AND PERENNIAL BEDDING PLANTS

Your plants have arrived fully 'hardened off' and as 'garden ready', plants will be ready for immediate planting outside into their final positions in containers or the garden.

When you plant up your containers and baskets, mix water-retaining gel granules and a slow-release fertiliser with the compost. Together they will save you time with both feeding and watering later in the season. As a general rule, allow one plant per 5cm (2in) of container or basket diameter and double this number for baskets where the sides are planted.

If you are planting in your beds and borders, prepare the ground well, removing any perennial weeds. Where the soil is not already rich, dig in some well-rotted manure or compost to add nutrition and help to improve structure. For optimum flowering, either incorporate some slow-release fertiliser at this time or feed regularly through the season. Keep plants well-watered until they are established.

9cm/2L POTTED PERENNIAL PLANTS

Your plants are supplied in pots and are ready to go straight into the garden, provided that the soil is frost free. Prepare the ground before planting and give the plants a thorough watering.

To plant, dig a hole slightly larger than the pot, remove the pot and place the root ball in the hole, ensuring that the top of the root ball is level with the surrounding soil surface. Back fill, firm well in and water thoroughly. Apply a mulch of organic material, composted bark, or compost around the base. Keep plants well-watered until they are fully established.

When planting up containers, a multi-purpose compost is usually best, and we recommend that you mix it with water-retaining gel granules and a slow-release fertiliser. Together they will save you time with both feeding and watering, although additional liquid feeding may still be needed later in the season.

For individual variety information, please see pages 4-6.

ACANTHUS - Plant in partial shade/shade. Space at 60cm (24in) apart. Correct positioning is vital as plants do not like being moved once established.

ACHILLEA - Prefers a sunny, well-drained site. Space at 30-40cm (12-16in) apart. Caution: Skin irritant.

ACTAEA - Grow in cool, moist, moderately fertile soil, enriched with organic matter. Water thoroughly in dry weather. Space at 45-60cm (18-24in) apart.

AGAPANTHUS - Plant in full sun and fertile, well-drained, light soil. Excellent for container planting. Space at 40cm (16in) apart.

AGASTACHE - Prefers a sunny, well drained site. Space at 30cm (12in) apart.

ALCHEMILLA - Tolerant of most soil conditions, including heavy clay, plant in sun or part shade. Space at 30cm (12in) apart.

ALLIUM - A perennial (not a bulb variety) best grown in a sunny or partial shade position. Space at 40cm (16in) apart

AMSONIA - Grow in moist well-drained soil in full sun or light shade. Can tolerate periods of drought. Space at 30-40cm (12-16in) apart.

ANTIRRHINUM - Plant in full sun in a well-drained soil. Space at 30cm (12in) apart. Prune back in late spring to promote bushier plants.

AQUILEGIA – Grow in fertile, moist, well-drained soil in sun or part shade. Space at 30-40cm (12-16in) apart.

ASTER - Plant in well-drained soil in a sunny position or partial shade. Space at 40cm (16in) apart – good spacing will aid circulation and help prevent mildew.

ASTRANTIA - Quick to clump and excellent for cut flowers. Requires full sun or semi-shade with well-drained soil. Space at 30-40cm (12-16in) apart,

CAMPANULA - Plant in sun or partial shade. Space at 50cm (20in) apart.

CATANANCHE - Plant in full sun. Perfect in well drained, light soils. Once established it has good drought resistance making it ideal for free draining soil. Space at 40-45cm (16-18in) apart.

CENTAUREA - Plant in moist but well drained soil and space at 45-60cm (18-24in) apart. Prevent mildew by ensuring the soil does not dry out and mulch well in the autumn.

CHRYSANTHEMUM – A hardy variety that will grow well in any moist, well-drained soil. Space at 45-60cm (18-24in) apart.

CIRSIUM - Plant in full sun or partial shade. Space at 40-60cm (16-24in) apart.

COREOPSIS - Plant in well-drained soil in full sun. Space at 30-40cm (12-16in) apart.

CRAMBE - Grow in moist, but well-drained soil in sun or part shade. Plant 100-150cm (40-60in) apart.

CROCOSMIA - Plant in any well drained soil in full sun. Space at 30cm (12in) apart.

DELPHINIUM - Remove flower spikes after flowering to promote a second flush of blooms. Likes sun and fertile, well-drained soil. Space at 40-50cm (16-20in) apart.

DIANTHUS - Plant in a sunny spot and prefers a soil enriched with well-rotted manure or garden compost. Plant 30cm (12in) apart.

DIASCIA PERSONATA - Grow in moist, but free-draining soil in full sun. Plant at 40-60cm (16-24in) apart.

DIGITALIS - Plant in a bright or partially shaded spot in well-drained soil. Suitable for planting under trees and shrubs as plants are quite drought tolerant. Space at 30cm (12in) apart.

ECHINACEA - Plant in a sunny position in well-drained soil. Space at 25-30cm (10-12 in) apart.

ECHINOPS - Ideal for planting spot with fairly dry, well-drained soil that is poor to moderately fertile. Full sun is essential as is protection from winter wet. Space at 45-60cm (18-24in) apart.

ERIGERON - Plant in a sunny position in well drained soil. Space at 45-60cm (18-24in) apart.

ERYNGIUM - Does best in full sun and fertile, well-drained soil. Space at 30-40cm (12-16in) apart.

ERYSIMUM - Deadheading will help to keep plants looking tidy. Likes sun and well-drained soil. Space at 30-40cm (12-16in) apart.

EUPHORBIA - Plant in sun or shade. Space at 40-60cm (18-24in) apart.

GALLIUM - Plant in a partly shaded position in moist, well-drained soil. Space at 25-30cm (10-12in) apart.

GAILLARDIA - Plant in a sunny position. Space at 40-45cm (16-18in) apart.

GAURA - Plant in sun or part shade. Space at 40-45cm (16-18in) apart.

GERANIUM - Plant in a sunny or partially shaded spot. The soil/compost should be free-draining and kept just moist. Space at 25-30cm (10-12in) apart.

GEUM - Does best in a sunny location and prefers moist but well-drained soil. Space at 30cm (12in) apart.

HELENIUM - Need full sun and any reasonably fertile, moist but well-drained soil. If plants are dead headed, they will continue to bloom until September. Stake plants as they grow. Space at 50cm (20in) apart.

HELIOPSIS - Quick to establish in rich, moisture retentive soil in full sun. Plant 45-60cm (18-24in) apart.

HESPERIS - Plant in a sunny position. Space at 45-60cm (18-24in) apart.

HEUCHERA - Very long-flowering and its size makes it perfect for pots and window boxes or ground cover in an area of dappled shade. Space at 30-40cm (12-16in) apart.

KNAUTIA - Plant in a sunny position. Space at 40-45cm (16-18in) apart.

LAVENDER - Trim plants after flowering to maintain a compact habit. Grow in full sun and fertile, well-drained soil. Space at 25-30cm (10-12in) apart.

LIBERTIA - Comb or rake off any old, tired or dead leaves and flowers in spring. If needed evergreens can be cut back (by up to half) at almost any time from April to July. Best grown in moist, well drained soil in full sun. Space at 60cm (24in) apart.

LOBELIA - Perfect for partial shade in moist but well drained soil. Space at 30-40cm (12-16in) apart.

LUPIN - Plant in a bright and sunny position in rich, free-draining soil. Cut back after flowering to encourage a possible further flush. Space at 30-40cm (12-16in) apart.

LYSIMACHIA - Performs best in humus-rich, moist soil that does not dry out in summer. Space at 45-60cm (18-24in) apart.

MONARDA - An excellent perennial for the late summer border. Grow in moist soil and full sun. Remove spent flowers to keep plants looking tidy. Cut back to a couple of inches above soil level when the first frosts appear. Mulch in the spring. Space at 50cm (20in) apart.

NEPETA - Plant in full sun and trim after flowering to keep plants compact. Space at 45-60cm (18-24in) apart.

OMPHALODES - Plant in moist, humus rich soil in partial shade. Space at 30cm (10-12in) apart.

PAPAVER - For best results make sure they will be in the sun for most of the day. Any soil is suitable provided it has reasonable depth and is well-drained. The foliage dies away soon after flowering and should then be cut off. Space at 30-40cm (12-16in) apart.

PENSTEMON - Great for borders or containers. Remove flower stems after flowering. Likes sun and fertile well-drained soil. Space at 30-40cm (12-16in) apart.

PEROVSKIA - Plant in full sun and space and space at 45-60cm (18-24in) apart.

POLEMONIUM - Easy to grow in either sun or part shade. Deadhead flowered stems to prevent self-seeding. Space at 30-40cm (12-16in) apart.

PHLOX - Plant in a sunny position and grow in fertile, well-drained soil. Keep well-watered during dry weather and remove faded flowers to encourage further blooms. Mulch in spring. Space at 30-40cm (12-16in) apart.

PHYSOSTEGIA - Plant in a sunny spot and cut back to the base in winter. Space 30-40cm (12-16in) apart.

POTENTILLA - Plant in any well drained soil in full sun. Space at 45-60cm (18-24in) apart.

PRIMULA - Grow in moist soil in sun or partial shade. Ideally needs moist soil during the growing season and dry soil in the winter. Space at 20-25cm (8-10in) apart.

PULSATILLA - Grow in a sunny well-drained position. Space at 30cm (12in) apart.

RUDBECKIA - Easy to grow in full sun or partial shade. Space at 40-50cm (16-20in) apart.

SALVIA - Plant in a sunny position in well-drained soil/compost. Excellent for adding to the front of borders or for including in mixed perennial container plantings. Space at 20-25cm (8-10in) apart.

SCABIOUS - Prefers moderately fertile, neutral to slightly alkaline soil. Dead head regularly to encourage further blooms. Space at 30cm (12in) apart.

SEDUM - Perfect for a spot in full sun and planted in well-drained soil. Plant 45-60cm (18-24in) apart.

STIPA - Plant in well-drained soil in full sun. Space at 30-40cm (12-16in) apart. Wait until early spring to cut back any brown or dead leaves.

TELLIMA - Prefers a partially shaded spot so ideal for a woodland border. Will tolerate drier positions in shade, and full sun in moist soils. Space at 45-60cm (18-24in) apart.

TROLLIUS - Plant in moist soil in sun or part shade. Space at 40-60cm (18-24in) apart.

TULBAGHIA - Grow in a sunny well-drained position. Space at 30cm (12in) apart.

VERBASCUM - Grow in full sun in poor, alkaline, well-drained soil. Larger plants will require support. Space at 40cm (16in) apart. Caution: toxic if eaten and a skin irritant.

VERBENA - Does best in a sunny location and prefers moist but well-drained soil. Space at 30-40cm (12-16in) apart. Cut down in spring as new growth emerges from the base.

VERONICA - Clump forming. Remove faded flower stems. Suitable for cutting. Likes sun and well-drained soil. Space at 30-40cm (12-16in) apart.

VERONICASTRUM - Plant in moist, well drained soil in sun to partial shade. Space at 45cm (18in) apart.

AUTUMN PLANTING BULBS

If not planting when first delivered, store your bulbs in a cool, dry place until planting time.

While successful in a very wide range of soils, most bulbs are intolerant of poor drainage so, if your soil is heavy, also dig in plenty of sharp sand or horticultural grit. For planting in containers, use general purpose compost. Bulbs are usually most effective when planted in groups.

Always plant bulbs and corms with the pointed growing tip facing upwards. If unsure, face any hair like roots downwards.

CAUTION: Do not eat any of these bulbs and keep out of reach of children. Contact with all parts of Allium, Bluebell, Hyacinth, Iris, Narcissus and Tulip may cause skin or eye irritation and all parts of Bluebell, Hyacinth, Iris, and Tulip may cause severe discomfort if ingested.

ALLIUM - Plant at approximately three times the depth of the bulb. Space them 15-30cm (6-12in) apart. Plant in a sunny spot.

ANEMONE - Anemone require a warm sheltered spot with well-drained, humus rich soil in sun or partial shade. For best results soak the tubers overnight before planting them with 'claws' upwards, 5cm (2in) deep and 10cm (4in) apart.

BLUEBELL - (Hyacinthoides non-scripta) - Bluebells prefer a semi-shady position, and soil that has been enriched with plenty of leafmould or well-rotted garden compost. Plant 10-15cm (4-6in) deep and 10-15cm (4-6in) apart.

CAMASSIA - Plant at least 10cm (4in) deep and 15cm (6in) apart, in fertile, well-drained, humus rich soil, ensuring that there is good drainage in the soil. Avoid plants becoming water-logged.

CHINODOXA - Find a position in full sun or semi shade and with well-drained soil. Plant 8cm (3in) deep and 7cm (2.5in) apart.

CROCUS - Plant 7-10cm (3-4in) deep and 7cm (3in) apart. Give them a position in full sun or semi shade and well-drained soil.

CYCLAMEN - Plant 5cm (2in) deep and 5-8cm (2-3in) apart in partial shade in moderately fertile, humus rich, well-drained soil. Cyclamen do not like excessive wet.

FRITILLARIA - Plant 12cm (5in) deep and 45cm (18in) apart. Handle the corms carefully as they are prone to bruising. Put some coarse sand in the planting holes and place the bulbs sideways. These corms are very intolerant of wet conditions. They must be kept dry in their dormant period.

AUTUMN PLANTING BULBS continued

HYACINTHS - Plant 10cm (4in) deep and 20cm (8in) apart in September or October in a sunny or partially shaded position. Ideal plants for the mixed or herbaceous border as well as patio containers.

IRIS - Plant at twice the height of the bulb and 5-10cm (2-4in) apart in well-drained, moderately fertile soil in full sun to dappled shade.

MUSCARI - Plant 7.5cm (3in) deep and 10cm (4in) apart. Planting time September or October. Thrives best in full sun in any well drained soil.

NARCISSUS - Plant in September and October at two times the depth of the bulb and 10-12cm (4-5in) apart. Perfect for beds and borders, in sun or part shade.

SNOWDROP - Snowdrops (Galanthus nivalis) prefer a semi-shaded position, in a moist retentive soil enriched with plenty of leafmould or well-rotted garden compost. Plant 10cm (4in) deep and 10cm (4in) apart.

TULIPS - NB: Do not plant Tulips until November/December. Plant 10-15cm (4-6in) deep and 8in (20cm) apart, in November to December in full sun. Planting sooner can result in frost damage to the growing shoot. Dead head after flowering. Tulips are best lifted after the foliage has died down and the bulbs stored dry through the summer.