

Growing instructions



Alcea – colorful mix (*Alcea rosea*)

One of the most popular garden flowers for hundred years

Description:

Alcea, commonly known as hollyhocks, is a genus of the Malvaceae family. They are native to eastern and southern Europe and are robust plants that blossom nearly 5 months each year from April until well into September. Hollyhocks love sunny, nutrient rich and primarily dry, wind-protected locations. The long, strong, hardly branched stems reach a height of up to 180 cm and carry beautiful, colorful blossoms. The magnificent hollyhocks are ideal as cut flowers in high vases.

Cultivation:

- Easily done indoors year-round. If direct cultivation is desired, this must be done by September so that the hollyhocks can bloom the following year.
- Hollyhocks are biennials. This means that the seeds are planted in year one and blossom in year two.
- The seeds are placed on potting soil or substrate, light pressed and covered with approx. 5mm of soil or substrate.
- The substrate must be kept slightly moist. Clear foil or a thin glass cover will protect against drying out.
- Germination is 12-18 days at a temperature of not more than 20° C.
- Plants that have been germinated in germination pots or bowls must be transferred as soon as the first leaf pair has grown.
- After that, hollyhocks need a lot of space so that they do not block each other from growing. There should not be more than five hollyhocks per square meter.