

## QUICK REFERENCE PLANTING GUIDE

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE          | Full sun.   |
| USDA HARDINESS ZONES        | 5 to 9.   |
| PLANT TYPE                  | Perennial.  |
| PLANTING DISTANCE IN-GROUND | At least 24 inches apart.   |
| CONTAINER SIZE              | Individual sections may be planted alone in 12-inch or larger containers or layered in a single container with three inches of soil between them.   |
| MATURE HEIGHT / SPREAD      | <b>Gladiolus 'Nanus Mix':</b> 12 to 18 inches tall with a 12 to 24 inch spread.<br><b>Liatris 'Purple &amp; White':</b> 24 to 48 inches tall with a 24 to 36 inch spread.<br><b>Lily 'Arbatax':</b> 3 to 4 feet tall with a 12 to 18 inch spread. |
| BLOOM TIME                  | Midsummer to frost.   |
| TIME TO REACH MATURITY      | 12 to 24 months.  |
| FACTS OF NOTE               | Attracts butterflies.<br>Great for cut flowers.<br>Drought tolerant once established.   |

## SOIL PREPARATION

We recommend having your soil tested periodically by your local County Extension Office ([www.nifa.usda.gov/](http://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.



*Thank you for your order.*

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

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### Cottage Farms' Guarantee

We aren't happy if you aren't happy. Cottage Farms warrants its perennials for 1 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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**Cottage Farms Direct**  
PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



**ULTIMATE HARDY  
HUMMINGBIRD  
SUMMER GARDEN**

\*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

### ULTIMATE HARDY HUMMINGBIRD SUMMER GARDEN SKU #M57461 / M58709

Your plants have been shipped to you as dormant bulbs in Bloom Pads made of biodegradable paper. Please remove the plants from the packaging 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 Bloom Pads in a cool, dark place such as a refrigerator, unheated garage or basement.
2. Keep the Bloom Pads dry.



SHIPPED AS BULBS IN BIODEGRADABLE BLOOM PADS.

## PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

### PLANTING IN CONTAINERS

Choose a container large enough to accommodate the Bloom Pad strip, or cut the strip into three individual sections. Fill the container to ¾ its depth with soil, place the Bloom Pad strip or one section in the container, then cover with soil. The individual sections may be planted in separate containers, or layered in a single container with roughly three inches of soil between them. Water thoroughly after planting.



## PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS (Continued)

### PLANTING IN-GROUND

Dig a hole to a depth of 6-8 inches and wide enough to accommodate the Bloom Pad strip. If desired, the Bloom Pad strip may be cut into three individual sections. Drop the Bloom Pad strip or sections into the hole, cover with soil, then 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.

Overwatering 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. In fall, allow the foliage to die back naturally, then cut it down to ground level. New growth will emerge as spring temperatures rise.

## CONTINUING CARE (Continued)

### 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.

### FEEDING

Feed your plants once every 2-3 weeks during the growing season with a water-soluble fertilizer such as **Cottage Farms'** Carefree Bud-N-Flower Booster (**SKU #M7582**). Discontinue feeding after September 1st so your plants can harden off for winter dormancy. Resume fertilizing when new growth appears in spring.

### WINTERIZING

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

The plants in this collection are hardy, but will benefit from mulching in cold areas. The time to winterize your plants is in late fall. When winterizing your perennials, keep in mind that the root system is the most vulnerable to cold damage. Mulch heavily 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.