



# GROWING RANUNCULUS AND ANEMONES

## WHEN TO PLANT IN ZONE 3 (SPRING/EARLY SUMMER)

Ranunculus/Anemones are cool loving flowers which thrive in growing temperatures between 3 - 20 degrees Celsius. Once the high heat of summer hits they will often burn out. They much prefer cool growing temps.

The trick to getting a decent bloom period out of ranunculus/anemones is to get them planted in early/late spring. When day time temperatures are still cool, and night time temps are cool but don't go much lower than 0 degrees. We plant ours out very early spring, but they are planted under a covered hoop house, so they do have an extra layer of frost protection and if nights drop very cold we add in some supplemental heat. If you do not have a low tunnel or hoop house wait till late spring when temps have warmed up and the over night lows are not getting too cold or be prepared to cover them if nights get too cold.

## HOW TO PREPARE THE ANEMONES/RANUNCULUS FOR PLANTING

### **THE PRE-SPROUT PROCESS (NOTE THIS PROCESS MUST BE DONE BEFORE PLANTING OUTSIDE):**

- We would recommend doing this process about 3-4 weeks before you are ready to plant the corms outside.
- Fully submerge the corms under cool (not ice cold) water and let them soak for four hours in a container. Allow the tap to slowly drip into the container as they soak or stir the corms every half hour (this is an important step!). Placing the corms in a mesh laundry bag, or an old onion bag during this process works great!
- After four hours has past let your bulbs drain of excess water by placing them on a paper towel for a few minutes. You will see your corms are now much plumper and fuller.
- Plant corms into potting soil or moistened soil less mix, an inch below the soil. Ensure the soil is not overly wet. Keep soil slightly moist but not over saturated during this process. The corms do not like to be too wet.
- Store the planted corms in a cool place out of direct sunlight during this pre-sprout process (a cool room in your house, pantry, etc works great for this). Normally after this process your corms will start to sprout in about 10 or so days! Please note while the corms are sprouting and leafing out they do not like to be too wet, but they do need to be slightly moist.
- Once the corms are beginning to show some roots and may already be starting to leaf out just a little, depending on the date, I would either re-pot them at this stage into bigger pots, keeping the new leaves above soil line or plant them in the garden if the temperatures are now consistently above 0 degree's (including overnight lows). Ranunculus/ Anemones can take a slight frost once hardened off, but we recommend covering them should temperatures dip below freezing mark. They should be planted outside when it is still on the cooler side of late spring to get the most bloom time out of them. They will do fine in the garden (part to full sun) or simply leave them in pots on your deck. They also prefer well-draining soil. To keep them blooming cut the flowers at the base of the plant. If you don't keep cutting them they will stop blooming. During the blooming process we give them consistent watering.

## RE-USING AND STORING THE CORMS

Once the ranunculus/anemones have stopped blooming and foliage has died back you can pull the corms out, let them dry in a sunny spot for a few days and then store them indoors in a dry location over winter (ensure they do not freeze – ideal winter storage temps are 10 – 18 degrees Celsius). So just in your house is fine in a cooler location. You should then be able restart the process the following spring and often your corms will have multiplied.

**Happy Planting!! These beauties take a bit of work but they sure are worth it!**