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HOW TO GROW ANEMONES & RANUNCULUS

SHOP CORMS

WHEN TO PLANT

• Anemones can handle temps above 25 degrees and ranunculus above 30 degrees, which usually means that, for zones 7 and above, corms can be planted outside in late fall/early winter. In zones 6 and below, plant corms in late winter/early

spring. IDEAL TEMPERATURES AND PROTECTION

• Ranunculus are a bit more tender than anemones so if temps dip below 30 degrees for an extended period of time they should be covered with some form of protection (I've used everything from a low tunnel to frost cloth to a bedsheet;). If frost cloth ends up lying directly on top of the foliage it can damage the plant so be sure to leave a bit of space between the covering and the plant, especially if it's still undercover as it's beginning to shoot up blooms.

SOAKING

• Soak corms for 6 hours or so. During this time they will plump up and increase in size. You can go ahead and plant them at this point or follow steps for pre-sprouting.

HOW TO PLANT

• Prepare the planting area by tiling in 3 - 4" of compost and a balanced fertilizer.

SPACING

These guys don't like being planted deep...I plant my ranunculus 1"-2" and anemones at 2"-3". If you're keeping them in year round (not removing them in the fall) then plant 6"-12" apart so they have room to grow. If you're taking them out then they can be spaced as close as 4" apart.

ANNE'S TIPS

- Expect your first bloom from pre-sprouted anemones around 90-120 days after being planted outside and around 120-150 days for pre-sprouted ranunculus. If your growing zone allows, you can extend your season by succession planting your corms (I space out my plantings out 6 or so weeks apart). In doing so, I've been able to lengthen my growing season between 4-8 weeks.
- Anemones go dormant when temps consistently hit 70 degrees or so and ranunculus will stop producing around 80 degrees. Keeping this in mind helps you find the latest time you can plant them and still get a good growing season in. These guys are heavy feeders so, if you're wanting to keep your corms for the following year, make sure you fertilize before and during their growing season. It's best to leave them in the ground until the leaves are fairly yellowed so your plants can photosynthesize and soak up the nutrients they need to re-bloom the following year.

Not a must, but pre-sprouting gives the plants a head-start

A NOTE ABOUT PRE-SPROUTING

heading into their growing season. They will be bigger and stronger and bloom sooner with longer blooming windows than corms that haven't been pre-sprouted.

PRE-SPROUTING INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Increase the size of your corm by soaking it for approximately four hours before planting.
- 2. To pre-sprout the corms, fill a tray with about 1" of damp soil (not sopping wet...think partially wrung out sponge). Pop the corms in, pokey side down, then cover with additional damp soil. Make sure they're covered about 1".
- 3. Place the tray in a cool and dark spot where it will be undisturbed for 2-3 weeks or so. Check on them every few days to make sure the soil is moist and remove any corms if they have mold.
- 4. Corms are ready to plant outside once they're roots are around 1/2" long.