

Calendula

Calendula is a cheery annual that can be eaten and used in teas and natural skincare. These seeds grow a mix of cream, gold, apricot and bright yellow flowers that readily self-sow. This plant requires very little care and is tolerant to some drought. This is an exceptionally easy plant to grow in herb and pollinator gardens.

Type: Annual /Biennial

Height: 30-60 cm (12-24")

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Difficulty: Easy



Growing

Direct sow outside once the threat of frost is gone. Sow seeds 5 mm (1/4" in) deep and space out seedlings by about 15-45 cm (6-18"). You can sow new seeds every couple of weeks through the summer to have ongoing flowers into fall. Seeds start to grow in about 1-2 weeks, and flower about 2-3 weeks after germination.

Keep watered in extremely hot weather and deadhead regularly, but avoid overhead watering as the leaves may become susceptible to mildew. Plants may self-sow, which should be encouraged.

Saving

Remove flower heads when the petals dry and fall off, and seeds have turned brown. Dry the seed heads in a paper bag for about a week. Separate the seeds from the seed head and allow to dry for another week. Put the seeds into a dated and labelled envelope and return to Brock!