

Planting Instructions



Planting can take place from spring until fall. The key to successful plant growth is proper planting depth and good soil drainage. The planting depth should be the same depth as it was while grown in the nursery. Planting too low or too high will result in poor growth. On poorly drained, clay soils, the planting depth may be raised several inches and the soil should be sloped up to the original soil level of the container or ball.

Adding organic matter such as compost, aged manure or peat moss will improve plant growth especially if you have a poor sandy soil. On heavy clay soil, organic additives may cause the soil to hold too much water. In this case it is best to backfill with the original soil only and skip the organic amendments. A high phosphorous fertilizer can be added to the planting hole. If you fertilize at the time of planting follow the instructions on the fertilizer package. Only low levels of fertilizer should be needed until the plant is established, approximately one year after planting.

Once your plant is situated at the proper depth in the planting hole, firm the soil around the root ball and water the soil thoroughly to remove any air spaces. The addition of an organic surface mulch of 3-4" will help retain soil moisture and reduce weed growth. As with most newly planted plants it will take a year or so to become fully established. Until the plant is well established, make certain that the soil remains evenly moist. Check the soil moisture regularly that first year by probing your finger into the soil. If you feel moisture, all is fine. If the soil feels dry to the touch, then provide water by slowly drenching the root system, allowing the water to seep down to a minimum of 3 inches. There's no benefit in watering the leaves. Once your plant is established, it should require little attention unless you experience a prolonged drought or hot dry spell, if so water accordingly.