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how to plant and grow camassia bulbs

Posted in All Gardening Advice, Bulbs, May, June on 1st June 2019

Camassias are one of the most tolerant and long-lived bulbs you can grow.

PLANTING

Soil and Site

Humus-rich, moisture retentive soil, in sun or part shade.

Spacing

At least 8-10 cm (3-4inch) deep and 8-10cm apart

In the garden

- The bulbs are rounded, with small pointy ends. Plant the points facing upwards.
- After planting, water the [Camassia](#) well, gently soaking the soil to settle it around the bulbs.
- Can be naturalised in grass, but be aware that the leaves are slow to die down in summer, which makes mowing difficult, especially as grasses grow vigorously in the moist, heavy soil that camassias like. However, if you have an area where the bulb leaves can be allowed to die down naturally they can give you a long and lovely spring display.

For containers

- Better suited to growing in the garden, but if you do grow in a [container](#) put a layer of gravel at the bottom of the pot.
- To protect the bulbs grown in a pot against frost, place the pot in a frost-free area or cover it with bubble wrap. Water well during dry periods.

AFTERCARE

- In very cold areas, the soil should be mulched to protect the bulbs in late autumn. Water them freely in dry summers.
- Camassias can be propagated by removing the offsets that have formed round the main bulbs and replanting them individually; do this in summer when they are dormant. Alternatively, sow collected seed in a tray when it is ripe in summer and put in a cold frame.

Cut Flowers

Excellent cut flowers – Condition overnight in cold water.



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