RUDBECKIA fulgida var. fulgida

Coneflower, Black-Eyed Susan

Item No.: RG162

Also available as: Normal Seed

Plant Description

**Article Type**
GOLD NUGGET SEED®

**Life Cycle**
Perennial

**Family**
Asteraceae

**Origin**
USA: upper south and lower midwest

**Special Features**
A long-flowering botanical variety with dark green foliage that blooms after 'Goldsturm' until frost. Graceful botanical variety and great season-extender. With more open habit than 'Goldsturm'.

**Basic Colour**
(yellow / gold)

**Flower Colour**
yellow-orange with dark center

**Natural Flowering Period**
September - November

**Winter Hardiness Zones**
Z3 - Z8

**Foliage**
dark green

**Growth Habit**
erect / clumping

**Height with Flowers**
80 cm

**Spacing between Plants**
70 cm

**Soil Requirements**
average

**Location**

**Characteristics**
groundcover

**Usage**
honey-bee food plant / suitable for cutting

Cultivation

**Grams per 1000 seeds**
0.83333 Gram

**Seeds per Gram**
1200 (does not correspond to the number of plants!)
Sowing Rates/Trays  2 per cell
Plug tray recommended size(s)  72 / 128
Sowing Direction

(16) See 15 with the exception of germination being slower and more irregular. This poses no problems.

(15) Rapidly germinating, keep seed in constant moisture (not wet) with temperatures of about +20°C (68°F). Seeds must be covered thinly. Do not cover very small seeds, but tightly press into the earth. Keep in cooler conditions after germination occurs.

Scheduling

Best Sowing Date  Anytime (northern Hemisphere, Field condition)
Sowing Time Hint  Light-germinator, do not cover, night 18°C, day 26°C.
Sowing to Germination  3 - 4 weeks
Germination to Transplant  3 - 10 weeks
Transplanting to Potting  4 - 6 weeks
Cutting back at Transplanting  Not Necessary.

Growing On

Container Size(s)  1-2 plugs per 11/12 cm (4 1/2”) / 2-3 plugs per 15 cm (6”)
Vernalization  There is no current research on vernalization but a prudent recommendation for any perennial would be 6-12 weeks (a few might need 15 weeks!) at an average daily temperature of 40°F (5°C). Exposure to cold may not be necessary for flowering but might improve quality.
Forcing  There has been no research, but an obvious place to experiment - following vernalization - would be raising daytime temperatures to 60° - 65°F (15° - 17°C). Provide 16 hours of continuous lighting. During the short days of winter, provide a night interruption lighting of 4 hours between 10:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. Some later flowering species can be forced in 14 - 16 weeks and perhaps sooner at warmer temperatures. Further experiments are warranted.
Fertilizer  Medium (150-200 ppm)