



## ALCEA Ficifolia-Hybr.

[Happy Lights]

Hollyhock

Item No.: AG280

Also available as: JET ®

### Plant Description

<b>Article Type</b>	GOLD NUGGET SEED®
<b>Life Cycle</b>	Perennial
<b>Family</b>	Malvaceae
<b>Origin</b>	Cultivar
<b>Special Features</b>	Mixture, single flowers, perennial. Breeding work with <i>Alcea rosea</i> resulted in stronger, healthier hollyhocks in lovely single colors. Hollyhocks are one of the most cherished garden plants.
<b>Basic Colour</b>	(mixture)
<b>Flower Colour</b>	mixture of yellow, copper, pink, red and white
<b>Natural Flowering Period</b>	May - October
<b>Flower</b>	single
<b>Winter Hardiness Zones</b>	Z3 - Z9
<b>Foliage</b>	lobed, fig-leaved
<b>Growth Habit</b>	upright, erect
<b>Height with Flowers</b>	180 cm
<b>Spacing between Plants</b>	75 cm
<b>Soil Requirements</b>	well-drained / average
<b>Location</b>	
<b>Characteristics</b>	solitary plant
<b>Usage</b>	suitable for cutting

### Cultivation

<b>Grams per 1000 seeds</b>	5 Gram
-----------------------------	--------



<b>Seeds per Gram</b>	200 (does not correspond to the number of plants!)
<b>Sowing Rates/Trays</b>	2 per cell
<b>Plug tray recommended size(s)</b>	72 / 128
<b>Sowing Direction</b>	(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

<b>Best Sowing Date</b>	Anytime (northern Hemisphere, Field condition)
<b>Sowing Time Hint</b>	Varying temperatures beneficial, day 24°C, night 15°C.
<b>Sowing to Germination</b>	2 - 3 weeks
<b>Germination to Transplant</b>	4 - 8 weeks
<b>Transplanting to Potting</b>	6 - 10 weeks
<b>Cutting back at Transplanting</b>	Cut-back once to keep more compact.

## Growing On

<b>Container Size(s)</b>	1-2 plugs per 11/12 cm (4 1/2") / 2-3 plugs per 15 cm (6")
<b>Vernalization</b>	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.
<b>Forcing</b>	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.
<b>Fertilizer</b>	Medium (150-200 ppm)