

## HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR GARDEN CHRYSANTHEMUM

Garden mums flower naturally from late August into November. The flowers are long-lasting, of many varied types and vibrantly coloured.

### PLANTING

1. Plant your mums 18" apart in a bright, sunny location.
2. Plant in a fertile soil with plenty of peat moss and composted manure. Spread a 2"-3" layer of composted manure or peat moss on the flower bed and dig in. This will encourage rapid development of roots - important for hardiness. Those to be planted in urns and planters should have a good quality potting soil in which to grow.
3. Remove the container and plant the entire root ball in the prepared soil mentioned above. Fall mums are very heavy with top growth therefore handle gently during planting to avoid damage to the main stem.
4. Thoroughly water-in the mums after planting. Repeat twice more at 5 to 7 day intervals. Normal fall rainfall should then be sufficient, except for those in planters which will need regular watering.
5. Fertilize the plants with Plant Prod 20-20-20 once every two weeks up until October 1st.

### WINTER PROTECTION

With proper protection your garden mums may survive the winter to be enjoyed again next fall.

1. After flowering in the fall, cut off the tops of the mums to within 2" of the soil surface.
2. Once the soil is frozen, cover the plants with a layer of straw or evergreen branches. Do not use soil, peat moss or leaves. This mulch helps to protect the plants against extreme temperature fluctuations during the winter.

### NEXT SPRING

1. When growth starts in the spring, remove the mulch and feed with Plant Prod 20-20-20.
2. Pinch out (cut off) the tips of the new shoots when they are 4"-5" tall.
3. Repeat this process again once more, before July 10th.
4. Compact, bushy plants will flower in the fall.

We hope that these hints will enable you to enjoy the beauty and colour of garden mums for many fall seasons to come.