



GETTING A JUMP ON SPRING

Why buy perennials now?

Mostly to satisfy our need to touch and see living plant material after our long, cold, Canadian winters. It assures us that spring is really just around the corner! It is also a great opportunity to select early spring bloomers in their peak condition, especially hand selected for vigor and fullness. These plants will bring a unique touch of spring to your home, or make a great gift for a friend. Early demand many limit the availability of these plants later in the season.

Indoors, perennials need to be kept fairly cool. Place them next to a bright, cool window, such as in a basement, or in a cold frame where the temperature will not dip below freezing. Be sure to regularly rotate your plants to expose all sides to the light. Water only when the surface soil begins to dry.

These perennials must be gradually introduced outdoors. After having grown indoors, they should not be exposed to freezing temperatures. Once outdoor temperatures are consistently above freezing, you can begin to put your plants outside and bring them in again if temperatures threaten to dip below freezing. When taken outdoors, initially place your perennials in a shaded location and gradually introduce them to more sunlight over the following 3 to 7 days. Do not place plants directly in full sun as they become hardened to outdoor temperatures and sunlight. By late April or early May, they can be planted out in the garden where they will settle into the ground for years of future enjoyment.