

# DAHLIA START TIMELINE

USE THE FOLLOWING GUIDE TO HELP IDENTIFY WHEN TO START CUTTINGS, TUBERS AND DAHLIA SEEDS ACCORDING TO YOUR SPECIFIC GROWING ZONE PAYING CLOSE ATTENTION TO YOUR LAST FROST DATE.

## DAHLIA CUTTINGS

### 10-12 WEEKS BEFORE LAST FROST

- POT UP TUBERS 10-12 WEEKS PRIOR TO LAST FROST TO WAKE THEM. ONCE SPROUT HAS 3 LEAF SETS TAKE CUTTING. THIS CAN TAKE 4-6 WEEKS.
- CUTTING MAY TAKE 1-2 WEEKS TO ROOT.
- CONTINUE TO TAKE CUTTINGS FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS AS NEW FOLIAGE GROWS 3 LEAF SETS.
- POTTED CUTTINGS WILL NEED A WARM ENVIRONMENT WITH LIGHTS AND WATER. MUST BE HARDENED OFF AND PLANTED OUT AFTER ALL RISK OF FROST HAS PASSED.

## PRESTARTING TUBERS

### 8 WEEKS BEFORE LAST FROST

- OPTIONAL TO LEAVING TUBERS IN STORAGE UNTIL PLANTING: PREPOT TUBERS 8 WEEKS BEFORE LAST RISK OF FROST AND PLACE IN WARM SPACE.
- PLANTS WILL NEED LIGHT AND WATER ONCE THEY HAVE SPROUTED. CAREFUL NOT TO OVERWATER.
- BECAUSE OF FOLIAGE, PLANT OUT AFTER RISK OF FROST HAS PASSED.

## DAHLIA SEEDS

### 6 WEEKS BEFORE LAST FROST

- 6 WEEKS BEFORE LAST FROST, START SEEDS IN WETTED PAPER TOWELS IN PLASTIC BAGS. CONTINUE UNTIL ALL SEED HAS GERMINATED.
- ONCE GERMINATED, MOVE A SPROUTED SEED TO SOIL (DECIDE TO POT UP INTO 4" SINK POT OR KEEP IN CELL TRAY & PLANT DIRECTLY IN GROUND). THIS CAN TAKE 2-4 WEEKS.
- ALLOW SEEDS TO CONTINUE TO GROW INDOORS FOR THE NEXT 2-4 WEEKS.
- HARDEN OFF SEEDLINGS FOR UP TO 1 WEEK.
- AFTER LAST RISK OF FROST, PLANT OUT SINK POTS OR TRANSPLANT SEEDLINGS DIRECTLY INTO SOIL.

## PLANTING TUBERS

### AFTER RISK OF FROST

- PREPARE FOR PLANTING WITH ANY NECESSARY SOIL AMENDMENTS.
- PLANT TUBER 2-6" DEEP.
- NOT NECESSARY TO WATER TUBERS UNTIL GROWTH IS 4-6" ABOVE SOIL.
- PRESTARTED TUBERS WILL NEED WATER IMMEDIATELY.

