



Birdsfoot Trefoil Planting Guide

About Birdsfoot Trefoil

Considered a nitrogen-fixing legume, Birdsfoot Trefoil is a cheery, yellow flower that makes excellent forage for livestock and can be grown and harvested for hay. Birdsfoot Trefoil should be seeded with grasses for optimum forage production.

When to Plant

If starting seeds indoors, sow 6-8 weeks before last frost. Transplant or direct sow seeds after the last spring frost.

Where to Plant

Birdsfoot Trefoil prefers full sun and thrives in just about any soil type that is well-draining, including clay, sand, acid, and alkaline. It does not do well with competition and prefers an area where weeds are minimal.

How to Plant

Soften hard coating on the seeds by rubbing them lightly with sandpaper or soaking in water overnight before sowing. Plant just below the surface, no deeper than 1/4", compacting the soil, and keep slightly moist until germination (2-3 weeks after sowing). Space seeds or seedlings about 6" apart.

Caring for Birdsfoot Trefoil

Water the root zone daily for a couple of weeks until the plant is established, then adjust your watering schedule to every 2-3 days. Fertilize before planting and again halfway through the growing season or apply 1-2" of mulch or compost annually.