



## Wild Blue Iris Planting Guide

### About Wild Blue Irises

Easy to grow and adaptable, this little gem was once thought a weed! Known commonly as Rocky Mountain Iris or Missouri Flag, this field iris is a charming, summer blooming Perennial. Wild Blue Iris Seeds do take a little extra care to get started, and we recommend scarification prior to planting in the fall.

### When to Plant

Direct Sow Wild Blue Iris seeds in the fall for a spring/summer germination. These seeds can also be started indoors after a 60-90 day period of cold stratification.

### Where to Plant

Wild Iris thrives in full sun conditions with moist, well-drained soil. Ideally soil should have a pH between 6.1-7.8.

### How to Plant

Soak Wild Blue Iris seeds overnight and use a sharp knife to nick the pointed end of the seed to give this variety the best chance for germination. Direct sow seeds in the fall onto the surface of the soil and compress, but do not cover the seeds. If starting indoors, sow seeds in flats with moistened peat moss, and keep seeds moist. Germination will take place over the course of 2-3 months. Note that germination will continue over the course of the next few years. If cells don't develop seedlings right away, do not discard them, as they likely will germinate eventually.

### Caring for Wild Blue Irises

Grow Iris seedlings under sheltered conditions until late spring, or approximately 6 weeks after the final frost date. Wild Blue Iris started indoors can then be transplanted outside. Seedlings will need frequent waterings, but once established, this variety is drought-tolerant. After establishing, Wild Blue Iris will grow into a colony that can last several years. When fully grown, Iris can be divided in the fall months. As a perennial, blooming will likely not take place until the second season.