



WISTERIA

Grow in fertile, moist but well-drained soil. Ensure placement has full Sun. Though wisteria will grow in partial shade, it probably won't flower. Sun is essential. If your soil is in poor condition, add compost; otherwise, wisteria will grow in most soils. Dig a hole as deep as the root ball and 2 to 3 times as wide. Space plants 3 to 4 m (10 to 15 ft) apart. Choose a site that will not overwhelm nearby plants as wisteria grows quickly and can overtake other plants. Each spring, apply a layer of compost under the plant and a 2-inch layer of mulch to retain moisture and control weeds. Some gardeners swear by phosphorus to aid flowering. Scratch a couple of cups of Organic calcium into the soil in the spring. Pruning is the secret to good flowering. Prune wisteria in late fall. Remove at least half of the prior year's growth, leaving just a few buds per stem. If you want a more formal appearance, prune again during summer after traditional flowering. For more blooms, try cutting back the rampant shoots every two weeks during the summer. Informally grown, mature plants need little or no subsequent pruning, but you will want to control rampant growth by pruning back at least once a year! All parts of this plant, especially the seeds, are poisonous.

GENERAL TIPS FOR PERENNIALS

"DO NOT" soak perennial roots before planting!

Separate cedar packing material from roots and discard, it should not go into planting hole. If you receive your perennials before you are ready to plant, store in refrigerator or a cool spot at approx. 1 C (34 F) until you can plant. Or pot them up right away and transplant into garden once ground is ready.

Soil should be well worked and free of weeds.

When planting, the crown should be set 1 cm (1/2 in) deep and well watered. Seedling plugs (plastic pots), should be transplanted covering plants with 1 cm (1/2 in) of soil also.

T & T Rose & Strawberry fertilizer (10-52-17) and Bone Meal are ideal for perennials.

Cover perennials with straw or leaves for extra winter protection.

As most perennial gardens are planted randomly, spacing is not rigid, but when unsure of distance between plants space them by looking at the height of that particular plant and habit. Usually you are looking at spacing plants at least 30 cm (12 in) apart for shorter plants to 90 cm (3 ft) apart for the taller.