



Helichrysum

Available in Plugs
& Seed unless
otherwise listed

Cut Flower varieties 2009

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Highsun Express

Helichrysum bracteatum... Strawflower Sultane

Indent Line

Best selection for dried bouquets, extra large 100% double flowers on strong stems. Mix of 8 colours, reselected to produce 8-10 stems per plant. Harvest flowers preferably

early in the morning before fully open and hang to dry in small bunches away from direct light. Strip foliage from stems to avoid rotting. Height 120cm. 1,500 Seeds/gram

1790 mix - not shown



plant habit

Cultural Notes

Common Name:

Everlasting Daisy, Straw Flower.

Family Name:

Asteraceae.

Genus:

Helichrysum.

Species:

bracteatum var. monstrosum.

Country of Origin:

Australia.

Plant Type:

Annual.

Growth Habit:

Uniform double flowers on strong stems.

Height with Flower:

90cm.

Location:

Field or green house.

Soil:

Well drained soils.

Transplant Date:

Cool Areas: September – November.

Warm Areas: August – October.

Flower Date:

Cool Areas: November – January.

Warm Areas: October – December.

Spacing Between Plants:

See below.

Harvest:

Cut flowers when bracts are unfolding and centres are visible.

Use:

Cut flowers for fresh or dried arrangements.

Environmental Factors:

Photoperiod:

Long days result in faster flowering, but flowering occurs regardless of photoperiod. Flowering is mainly a result of light intensity and temperature. Growth is more rapid-therefore flowering occurs faster under full sun and warm temperatures.

Temperature:

Temperatures below 13 °C (55 °F) result in slow growth and additional problems with root rot fungi. Temperatures of 21.5-24 °C (70-75 °F) are optimum for growth and flowering.

Field Performance:

Spacing:

Space on 25.5-30.5cm (10-12") centres.

Support:

Plants require at least 1 tier support.

Planting:

Transplant every 2-4 weeks, main flower head may be removed to harvest the resulting initial laterals. With sequential planting, only the first 2-4 lateral flowers are harvested and subsequent flower stems are disregarded. If only a single planting occurs, lateral stems eventually become too short for high-quality stems.

Location:

Plants are not tolerant of poorly drained soils or areas of heavy rainfall. Warm temperatures, combined with wet weather, result in root rots and foliar spotting. Plants do better in areas of dry summers than in areas of high moisture.

Greenhouse Performance:

Place on 15-23cm (6-9") centres, maintain 18-24 °C (65-75 °F) temperatures and high light intensity.

Stage of Harvest:

Cut flowers when bracts are unfolding and centres are visible. Always harvest before flowers are fully open. If picked open, petals turn backward as they dry, resulting in a rather ugly blossom.

Postharvest:

Fresh:

Fresh flowers persist for 7-10 days.

Dried:

When dried, flowers persist indefinitely. Strip leaves and hang tight bunches upside down in a warm, well-ventilated area. Flower heads themselves may be wired singly and dried straight up. Leave 1.75 – 2.5cm (½ to 1") of stem and stand them in a shallow container to dry.

Storage:

Storage of fresh flowers is not recommended; store at 3–5 °C (36-41 °F) if necessary.

Pests & Diseases:

Aster Leafhoppers suck the juice from the plant and also transmit aster yellows disease. Root and stem rot fungi result in loss of plants in areas of poor drainage and high rainfall. Wilt caused by *Verticillium albo-atrum* may cause severe damage.

Disclaimer: "Significant variations in seed, variety and crop performance, in results and in crop outcomes may occur depending upon geographic location, climate, soil type, soil conditions, cultural and management practices and other growth and development factors. Any cultural and descriptive information or other advice, recommendation, information, assistance or service provided by Highsun Express is intended as a general guide only and should not be relied upon and is provided without liability or responsibility (including for negligence) on the part of Highsun Express. It is recommended that in all cases a small scale trial production is undertaken in order to test local conditions and circumstances that may affect the crop."



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