



# Sweet William

Available in Plugs & Seed unless otherwise listed

## Cut Flower varieties 2009

[www.highsun.com.au](http://www.highsun.com.au)



### Sweet William *D.barbatus* (*Dianthus*)

#### Hollandia F1

Hollandia is suitable for spring and autumn flowering. It doesn't require cold. For best harvest, sow end of November for autumn flowering and following spring. Height 50cm. The Formula Mix has received a Fleuroselect Quality Star award. 1,200 Seeds/gram



3061 mix



close-up flower heads

#### Heritage

This Fleuroselect Quality Mark winning Heritage series will bloom extra early and does not require low temperatures to initiate flowers. Plants have sturdy stems that make it excellent for landscaping and high density planting. Heritage can also be used for mixed containers. Height 40-50cm. 1,200 Seeds/gram



Highsun Trials show **Holandia** on the the left, **Heritage Rose Eye** in the middle and **Heritage Crimson** on the right



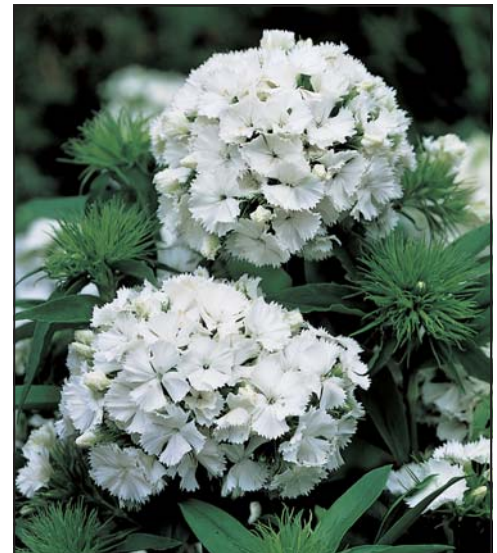
4471 crimson



4472 purple



4473 rose eye



4474 white

# Sweet William Cut Flower Varieties 2009

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## Cultural Notes

### Common Name:

Sweet William.

### Family Name:

Caryophyllaceae.

### Genus:

Dianthus.

### Species:

barbatus x F1 Hybrid.

### Country of Origin:

Southern Europe.

### Plant Type:

Biennial grown as an annual cut flower.

### Transplant Date:

**Cool Areas:** March - May.

**Warm Areas:** April - May.

### Flower Date:

**Cool Areas:** September - October.

**Warm Areas:** October - November.

### Harvest:

Harvest when 10-20% of the flowers in the inflorescence are open.

### Use:

Cutflower for fresh arrangements.

### Planting Out in Greenhouse:

Seedlings can be transplanted on receipt. Due to their vigour Heritage & Hollandia can be planted later and at a wider spacing (12-16 plants/m<sup>2</sup>) than older varieties. The superior length of flower stems warrant the installation of one or two layers of netting in late winter, before stems start to stretch. These should be moved up as stems stretch in spring.

Dianthus can be transplanted from January to May for flowering in the following spring.

### Soils & Nutrition:

Dianthus generally requires well drained soils with a pH between 6 and 7. The height and vegetative development of the crop is strongly dependant on soil type. On most soils a moderate base dressing before planting is sufficient but on sandy soils side dressing may be required. Too much fertiliser produces a dense, lush crop and increases the susceptibility to fungal diseases.

### Post Harvest – Fresh:

The use of STS enhances vase life. Flowers persist 7 – 10 days.

### Pests & Diseases:

Many of the diseases of carnations also infect Dianthus. Do not grow Dianthus and Greenhouse Carnations in the same bed.

Aphids, white-fly, leafminer: Insects should be controlled regularly using recommended insecticides, most importantly to prevent growth defects caused by viral infections.

Rust- (*Uromyces dianthi*): Yellow leaf spots appear on the upper side of the leaf while on the lower side dark brown, wart like lumps of spores merge. This important disease sometimes appears as early as autumn and should be controlled immediately using recommended chemicals in rotation. Dense crops must be monitored regularly.

Rust – (*Puccinia arenariae*): can be a serious disease and is particularly destructive to the lower foliage.

Leaf Spot (various): Generally round, light brown to white spots with purple edges appear on leaves, mostly in prolonged wet conditions, especially in dense, lush crops. Can be controlled with recommended fungicides used in rotation. Avoid excessive fertilising and plants staying wet overnight.

Botrytis Blight (*Botrytis cinerea*): Mainly a problem in ageing flowers, this disease is especially prevalent in cool, wet conditions. The danger of infection is greatly reduced when water is kept off open flowers. Where possible, plants should be watered from underneath with dripper hoses as soon as the crop canopy closes. A range of preventative or curative chemicals is available.

Fusarium wilt (*E. oxysporum*): The repeated growing of Dianthus and other members of the Dianthus genus (e.g. carnation) on the same land encourages Fusarium infection. New growth yellows and leaves point downward and plants are stunted. Remove the infected plants and sterilise infected soil. Chemical control of this disease is difficult. Incidence of the disease can be minimised through crop rotation or fumigation.

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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