

# Asclepias (Butterfly Weed)

## 30ct Plug

Container:

Trade 1 Gallon Container

Finish:

9-11 weeks

When To Plant:

Spring to late spring

Notes:

Only *Asclepias tuberosa* and *A. tuberosa* 'Hello Yellow' are offered in this size.

## 72ct Plug

Container:

Trade 1 Gallon Container

Finish:

8-10 weeks

When To Plant:

Late summer to early fall

## Grade #1 Bare Root

Container:

Trade 1 Gallon Container

Finish:

8-10 weeks

When To Plant:

Spring to late spring

## Growing Temperature:

60-65° F

## Soil pH:

5.8-6.2

## Fertility:

Fertilize at 75-100 ppm N at each watering.

For Controlled Release or Slow Release Fertilizer, see your preferred supplier for recommended rates for incorporation or top dressing, as it varies by fertilizer.

## Potting and Timing:

*Asclepias* has a taproot which can be trimmed to fit the container when planting from bare root.

## Planting Level:

Plant 'high' so crown protrudes above soil line for bare root, plug even with the soil line.

## PGRs/Pinching:

Plants can be sheared to promote lateral branching.

## Lighting:

*Asclepias* requires long days (14 hours) to break dormancy.

## Holding Temperature:

50-60° F

## EC Level:

1.5-2.5 pour through method

## Vernalization:

6-9 weeks of temperatures below 40° F are recommended to produce a quality flowering plant.

## Pests and Diseases:

Crown and root rot (*Sclerotium*), web blight and root rot (*Rhizoctonia*), leaf spots (*Phyllosticta*), rust (*Puccinia*), Cucumber Mosaic virus (CMV). Thrips are the main insect pest, Oleander aphids can also be a problem on *Asclepias* spp.

## Moisture:

*Asclepias tuberosa* and *A. tuberosa* 'Hello Yellow' - For bare root after an initial watering in, keep dry until plants break dormancy, then water evenly. Established plants should be watered moderately, then allowed to dry slightly between waterings.

*Asclepias incarnata* prefers higher moisture levels, and should be grown in average to wet conditions.

## Other Comments:

In the garden, *Asclepias* is very slow to break dormancy.

## Grower Tips:

Provide high light. *Asclepias tuberosa* prefers a drier growing environment, while *Asclepias incarnata* prefers average to wet conditions.



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