



Showy Milkweed (*Asclepias speciosa*) Planting Instructions

Sowing seeds in your garden doesn't tend to work well with Showy Milkweed in our area. It is best to start the seeds indoors and transplant your seedlings to your garden once they've grown a bit. Here's how:

1. Fill a small, biodegradable (if possible) container that has drainage holes with potting soil, spread a few seeds on top, then sprinkle lightly with a small amount of additional soil. Water and place in a sunny windowsill.
2. Continue to water 2-3 times a week, making sure the soil doesn't get dry and crumbly, but also isn't so wet that there's standing water. Keep in the sun until your seedlings are several inches high.
3. After the threat of frost has passed, carefully transplant your seedlings to a sunny area in your garden or yard, leaving space for the milkweed to grow without competition. If your seedlings are in a biodegradable pot, cut the bottom out and place directly in your garden or yard. Water until they become well established.

Helpful Hints:

- Milkweed seedlings are slow to form roots, so to make transplanting easier, we recommend using biodegradable pots and planting the whole pot in the ground.
- Once your milkweed becomes established, it will start spreading underground via its rhizomes. If you'd like to control spread, consider planting in a raised bed.
- Find more helpful hints at deschuteslandtrust.org/milkweed-tips

Don't forget to tag us on social! #PlantMilkweed #ButterflyBrigade

- Facebook: www.facebook.com/deschuteslandtrust
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Milkweed contains toxins that can be harmful to pets, livestock, and other people, if ingested.



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