

CamelliaShop Planting Tea Seeds

We do not guarantee that our seeds will germinate and grow. We can assure you that our seeds have been properly managed and stratified since harvest in October 2023, and are from the same stock that we grow ourselves. Following the guidelines below will give you the best chance of having good germination results.

What you will need:

Container: 6-8" diameter pot.. Make sure it has lots of drain holes. A plastic nursery pot would work well. You can also use a bedding plant tray with individual cells.

Soil: 1 Part Potting Soil & 1 Part Perlite

Instructions:

1. Mix Potting Soil & Perlite in equal amounts. Place soil in container and very lightly pack it down.
2. Remove your seeds from the plastic bag and space them out in the container on top of the soil. The seeds can touch. Push seeds into the soil about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch and brush the soil over them to cover.
3. Pack them down lightly.
4. Water the seeds and let them drain. Don't use a saucer.

Note: You can put all of the seeds in one container to germinate as you will be removing them later or you can use smaller containers and split them up. If you use bedding plant cells, you can put one to a cell.

We suggest placing your container of seeds inside a **clear** storage container with a lid to create somewhat of a mini greenhouse. That way it will keep the soil moist, but not wet. You don't want to over water seeds, because they will rot. If the soil looks like it's dry, take the container out, water it well, let it drain and put it back inside its storage container. You shouldn't have to water it too much, but check it every 4-5 days.

If you live in a mild climate, you can keep the seeds outdoors but in a shady place. Do not place them in the full sun. Do not let the seeds freeze. You can also keep the container inside in a bright room but not direct sun.

As soon as you see the plants emerge, you can remove them from their storage container and keep them in a shady place. Water to keep moist and let it drain. Don't use saucers.

Tea seeds typically germinate within 2-6 months depending on the weather and your climate. For us here in Georgia, when the soil reaches 70F seeds break dormancy and start to grow. Warm seeds germinate faster than cold seeds.

When the plants are 2-3 inches tall, carefully remove them and put them in individual pots. Continue to grow in a shady location and protect from freezes. Use a soil that is formulated for shrubs and trees. Bedding and Vegetable plant soil is not suitable as it holds too much moisture.