

Dierama

Add a combination of equal parts of compost and vermiculite to 3-inch planting pots. Water the mix until the excess water drains from the bottom of the pots. Set them aside until they have drained completely and the planting mixture is damp, not saturated.

Place 10 seeds on the surface of the planting medium in each pot and cover them with a 1/8-inch layer of vermiculite. The seeds will germinate quicker if placed outdoors in a cold frame. Otherwise, find a cool, damp place to leave them. The dierama seeds should sprout within six weeks.

Transplant the seedlings into individual pots when they are 5 inches tall. Dierama does not tolerate too much root disturbance, so handle them carefully when transplanting. They should be planted in equal parts of compost and vermiculite. Leave the pots in a sunny area and do not allow the soil to dry out. Transplant the dierama into their permanent location the second spring after germination.

Add 3 to 4 inches of sharp sand to the planting bed and mix it to a depth of 6 inches. Plant the dierama at the same depth at which they have been growing and 2 feet apart.

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