

SFA

Seeds for Africa

Ornithogalum Thysoides

OUTDOOR BEDS:

Find a location where the soil drains well. If there are still water puddles 5-6 hours after a hard rain, scout out another site. Or amend the soil with the addition of organic material to raise the level 2 - 3 inches to improve the drainage. Peat moss, compost, ground bark or decomposed manure all work well and are widely available.

Site your ornithogalum where they will get full day sun.

Dig shallow holes and plant the ornithogalum bulbs 1-2" deep and 2-3" apart. The bulbs look like small onions. Plant them with the pointed ends facing up.

After planting, water ornithogalum well, thoroughly soaking the area. Roots and sprouts will form quickly with flowers developing in the spring.

When in bloom, feel free to cut ornithogalum flowers for bouquets. This will not hurt the plants and the blossoms are excellent for arrangements.

After blooming has finished for the season leave the foliage in place; don't cut it off. The leaves will gather sunlight and provide nourishment for next year's show. Water as needed.

In the summer the leaves will yellow and die back as the plant slips into dormancy. Foliage may be removed at this point. Your ornithogalum will rest until late winter, before beginning the next growing cycle.

POTS, TUBS & URNS:

Fill your containers with good quality, well-drained soil. Almost any commercially available potting medium will work fine. Make sure there are

adequate drainage holes; ornithogalum must never sit in waterlogged soil or they will rot.

Site containers where they will receive full day sun.

Plant your ornithogalum 1-2" deep and 2-3" apart for the most brilliant display. The bulbs look like small onions. Plant them with the pointed ends facing up.

After planting, water ornithogalum well, thoroughly soaking the area. Roots and sprouts will form quickly with flowers developing in the spring.

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QUANTITY TIPS:

For 12-15" pots - plant 15

For 10" pots - plant 10-12

For 8" pots - plant 7

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