

# HOW TO PLANT HAUSER'S BARE-ROOT PERENNIALS

A bare-root perennial is a plant that is shipped without soil or a pot. In most cases, bare-root plants are shipped when they are dormant or just beginning to emerge from winter dormancy. Here's how to help these new plants get off to a great start.

**Examine:** As soon as you receive your plants, please take a look! The roots of each type of plant are different. They may be wiry and thin, dense and fibrous or thick and fleshy. There are a wide variety of perennials with different root structures.

**Plant Soon:** Hauser's bare-root perennials have been growing in our fields for at least a year and have just been dug, so they'd love go back into the ground as soon as possible! If you can't plant immediately, or within a few days, keep the plants in their packaging and store them in a cool, dark place (above freezing). If the roots seem very dry, mist them lightly and then put them back into the packaging with the moss until you are ready to plant.

**Plant Directly into the Garden:** Soak the roots in a little water (10-15 minutes) while you prepare the planting area to give them a good drink to assist the growing process. Loosen the soil to help the roots grow more easily. Then dig a hole that is several inches wider and deeper than the roots. Spread the roots of the plant evenly in the hole. If they reach down, you may want to mound a little soil in the middle and set the plant over it so the roots can spread. Adjust the planting depth so that after the hole has been backfilled, the crown of the plant (the area where the stem joins the root) will be even with or just slightly under the soil surface. Water deeply to settle the plant and make sure the soil around the roots is moist.

**"Heeling" in your plants:** *If you don't have time to plant within the week, another alternative is to "heel" your plants temporarily in a bed of soil. A raised bed is ideal for this. Follow the planting instructions above, keeping the crown of the plant at soil level. Water sparingly. Then relocate to your final garden bed as soon as you are ready.*

**The Next Stage:** Some perennials grow more slowly than others. It usually takes a month or more to see new growth on some where others fill out more quickly. You can expect most of our perennials to produce some flowering the first year; however, remember that the plants need to get established in their new home. We hope, once established, they will bring you beauty for a long time to come!



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