

# HARRIS® SEEDS

## BARE ROOT, BULB, AND VEGETABLE PRODUCT RECEIVING AND CARE INSTRUCTIONS

Unpack your products upon arrival and should any product be damaged, please notify Harris Seeds.

**General Information:** Product shipped in a dormant or bare root (soil less) condition may appear to be dead--growth processes have been temporarily shut down. They've been conditioned for shipping and will start growth after planting.

Bare root products have imaginary alarm clocks that tell them to begin root development as soon as they are planted. Root development is necessary before they begin their upward growth. Most spring-planted products may need 4-8 weeks before above ground growth is visible.

Once out of proper storage conditions, plants don't like to be kept waiting, so they will need your immediate attention. Transplanting within 24 hours after receiving is always best. However, if you must delay planting for any reason, we recommend the following:

**Fruits and Shrubs:** If you must wait a few days, open the box, cover the roots with moist peat moss or newspaper to keep them damp, rewrap them in their plastic shipping bag and store in a cool, dark place. If you can't plant for more than 10 days, we recommend you heel in the plant. Dig a trench only big enough for all the roots. Lay the plant in the trench and cover the roots with soil and soak with water. Don't worry about plant depth and straightness - remember, this is only a temporary home for your plant.

Before planting, soak the bare roots in a tub of water for at least an hour or two (but no more than 12 hours). Most of these plants have developed calluses on their coarse bare roots and need this soaking to let the plant know it is time to start growing again. For optimal transplant success, don't allow bare roots to dry out from sun and wind before they are planted. They must be kept moist and cool at all times prior to planting.

**Perennial Plants:** You may keep plants in their original shipping bags at 34 to 50 °F for up to 3 weeks. Most any refrigerator will work fine. Immediate planting will give the best results and is always recommended. It is common for the roots to appear dead when they arrive. They are just dormant and will sprout into life after planting. It is important not to let the roots dry out before planting.

**Bulbs and Vegetables:** If the shipping bag you receive has perforations, open the bag to allow air to circulate around the bulbs and vegetables. Store in a cool (45-60 °F), well-ventilated location until you plant. Protect from extreme heat or freezing. If the shipping bag appears not to have perforations, it is best to leave the product in the bag as received and store similar to perennial plants. Some bulbs and vegetables develop surface mold during storage. This yellow and white mold may appear anytime during shipping or storage and is no cause for alarm. It will quickly wipe off or fade away once the product is planted. With all products best results will be achieved by planting within 24 hours after receipt.

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355 Paul Road P.O. Box 24966 Rochester, NY 14624-0966  
p: (800) 544-7938 f: (877) 892-9197 growers@harriseseeds.com www.harriseseeds.com