

Patio Pollinator Garden

This seed collection is a triple threat! First, these awesome flowers are meant to grow in containers, so you don't need a large space to have a beautiful garden. Second, these gorgeous blooms attract beneficial insects. Not only that, but we've also included a beneficial bug house so your garden is fit for a queen (bee). Third, these seeds are all All-America Selections winners! Here's a step-by-step guide on how to grow the seeds included in your Garden Therapy Kit.

MATERIALS

- Garden Therapy Patio Pollinator Collection Seeds
- Seed-starting journal
- Seed-starting soil mix
- Seed tray with greenhouse lid and pots
- Plant labels
- Beneficial bug house

GROW IT!

Download and print the Seed-Starting Journal here: <https://gardentherapy.ca/get-growing-printable/>

Follow the instructions on the seed-starting journal to calculate the date to start each one of the seeds in the collection.

Some of the seeds can be started right in the garden, while others are best started indoors before the last day of frost in your area.

INDOOR SEED STARTING

For Indoor seed starting, you can use a Jiffy Greenhouse or your preferred seed-starting tray/pots. Adjust the instructions that follow if you use something other than a Jiffy Greenhouse.

1. Mix the seed-starting soil and water in a bucket to moisten it. It should be moist, but not soggy.
2. Fill Jiffy pots with damp soil mix.
3. Make a small indent in the top of the soil and plant 2-3 seeds per pot, and cover lightly.
4. Label the planted seeds.
5. To create a mini greenhouse, cover the tray with a plastic dome lid.
6. Once the seedlings emerge, remove the dome altogether and place the seedlings in bright light.
7. Water the seedlings from the bottom of the tray or by misting with a spray bottle to avoid damaging them.

A Few Notes

Planting Medium. Soil is full of microbes, bacteria, and critters. That's great for the garden but bad for indoor seed starting. If you are starting the seeds indoors, look for a soilless seed-starting mix that is sterile. It will give your seeds the best start.

Labeling. Those little green sprouts all look pretty similar when they first pop up. Use plant labels to identify what seeds were planted so you can keep track of them. Wooden Popsicle sticks make inexpensive and biodegradable seed labels.

Thinning. If you planted more than one seed, then it's pretty likely that you have more than one seedling (germination rates are one of the things GardenTrends is pretty serious about!). In small pots, it's best to reduce the crop down to one plant to avoid overcrowding. Grab a clean pair of scissors and snip all but the strongest seedling in each pot – don't pull! Pulling can disrupt the roots.

The Right Light. The light requirements for each of the plants can be seen in the next section. Generally, a window is not enough light for starting seeds. For early seed-starting indoors, a florescent grow light will help to give your seedlings a great start. The seeds will also do well in a greenhouse.

Watering. Make sure you keep the seeds hydrated by watering them enough so that the top layer of growing medium stays moist at all times. Don't overwater, though—the growing medium should be damp to the touch, but never soggy.

To avoid washing out tiny seeds or damaging seedlings, try misting using a spray bottle or soaking plants from the bottom by placing water in the basin of a tray and allowing the moisture to be wicked up.

Transplanting. As the seedlings grow into plants that are too large for the pots, you can move them outside to keep growing (as long as you have passed the Last Frost Date in your area). Repot the plants into larger pots and slowly introduce them outside (in the shade) to harden them off. After a week of gradually increasing outside time, they should be ready for the garden!

Beneficial Bug House. Be sure to mount your beneficial bug house near where you plant the pollinating flowers. It's best to position the home in a sheltered area away from prevailing wind, with access to some water and full sun. Perfect for hanging on the back of your deck, shed, or fence. Be sure to leave the house out all year long so beneficial insects can overwinter in the shelter during the cooler months.

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garden therapy

SEED COLLECTION

PATIO POLLINATOR COLLECTION



Summer Jewel™
Lavender
Salvia

Annual

Seeding Time: Spring

Days to Germination: 10 – 15

Seeding Depth: 0 – 1/8"

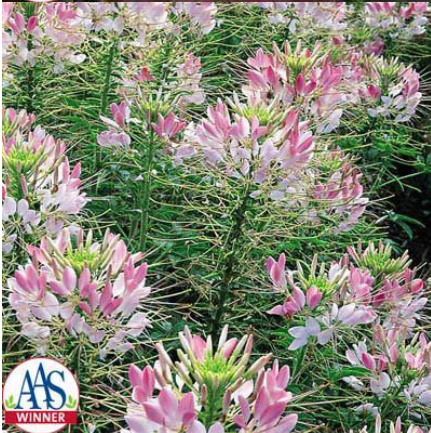
Weeks to Transplant: 11 - 12

Soil Temperature: 68 – 77°F

Final Container: 6" or larger in full sun

Pollinators: honey bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds

For best results, sow seed indoors on top of sterile soil mix as light is required for germination; mist frequently and cover to prevent drying out. Ideal as a standalone in containers and plays well as an accent filler in mixed containers.



Sparkler Blush
Cleome

Annual

Seeding Time: Spring

Days to Germination: 4 – 6

Seeding Depth: 0 – 1/8"

Weeks to Transplant: 13 – 15

Soil Temperature: 80 - 85°F

Final Container: 12" or larger in full sun

Pollinators: bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds

For best results, sow seed indoors on top of sterile soil mix as light is required for germination. Transplant seedlings to pots after germination. Ideal as a standalone in containers and plays well as a center focal thriller in very large mixed containers.



Asian Garden
Celosia

Annual

Seeding Time: Spring

Days to Germination: 7 – 10

Seeding Depth: 0 – 1/8"

Weeks to Transplant: 12 – 17

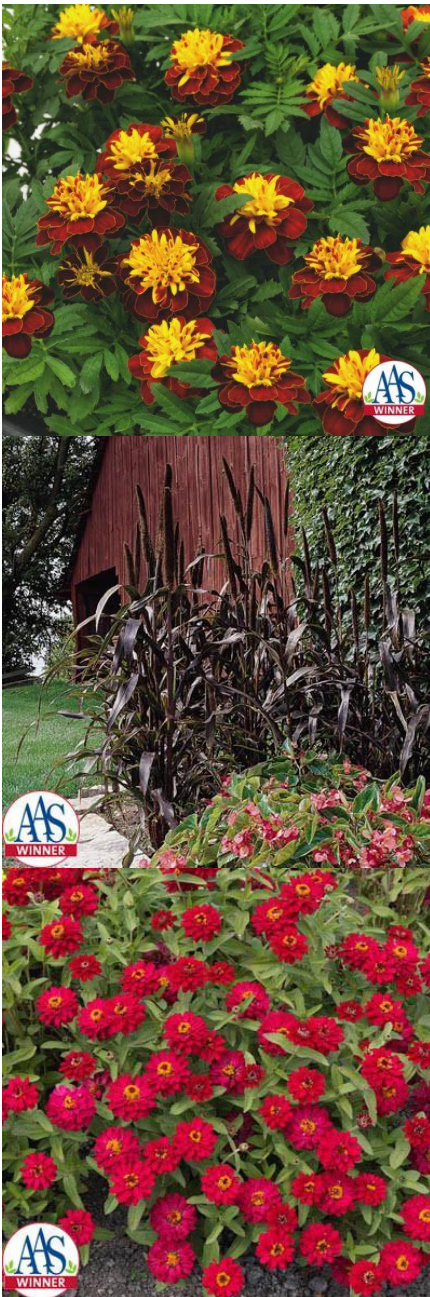
Soil Temperature: 75 – 80°F

Final Container: 6" or larger in full sun

Pollinators: bumblebees and other wild bees

For best results, sow seed indoors on top of sterile soil mix as light is required for germination. Transplant seedlings to pots after germination. Ideal as a standalone in containers and plays well as a center focal thriller in mixed containers.

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**Super Hero™ Spry
Marigold**

Annual

Seeding Time: Spring
Days to Germination: 5 - 8
Seeding Depth: ½"
Weeks to Transplant: 7 - 9
Soil Temperature: 70 – 75°F
Final Container: 6" or larger in full sun
Pollinators: mid-summer bumblebees

Sow seed on top of sterile soil mix indoors, covering lightly with soil. Transplant seedlings to pots after germination. Ideal as a standalone in containers and plays well as an accent filler in mixed containers.

**Purple Majesty
Ornamental Millet**

Annual

Seeding Time: Spring
Days to Germination: 3 - 5
Seeding Depth: ½"
Weeks to Transplant: 9 - 18
Soil Temperature: 72 – 78°F
Final Container: 12" or larger in full to partial sun
Pollinators: bees

Start seed indoors in the final container or, to save space, in individual 4" containers. Sow 2 – 3 seeds per pot, and cover lightly with soil. Ideal as a standalone in large containers and plays well as a central thriller in mixed containers. Requires moderate moisture and tolerates high heat.

**Profusion Double
Hot Cherry
Zinnia**

Annual

Seeding Time: Spring
Days to Germination: 2 – 5
Seeding Depth: ¼"
Weeks to Transplant: 5 – 8
Soil Temperature: 75 – 78°F
Final Container: 6" or larger in full sun
Pollinators: bees, butterflies and moths

Sow seed on top of sterile soil mix indoors, covering lightly with soil. Transplant seedlings to pots after germination. Ideal as a standalone in containers and plays well as an accent filler in mixed containers.

Beneficial Bug House

This beneficial bug house provides a safe space in your garden for insects to develop from egg to adulthood, where they can facilitate the reproduction of flowering plants.

The top section of this hotel is for solitary bees to pollinate your garden. The bottom section is for lacewings and ladybugs, all of which will act as beneficial protectors by preying on garden pest insects. The roof provides weather protection and is built to last outdoors through inclement weather.



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