Monarch Meadows Native Plant Nursery

Native Plant Starter Kit

Thank you for your purchase and interest in native plants!

Site Selection

<u>Mesic Prairie:</u> The plants from this kit are pretty tolerant of most soil moistures but do best in medium soils. These plants are sun lovers so be sure to plant them in a sunny location.

<u>Wet Prairie:</u> These plants love to be in wet soils where they receive plenty of moisture. Be sure to pick a sunny location that recieves plenty of moisture.

<u>Woodland:</u> These shade loving plants do best in rich medium soil. Most can tolerate partial sun but are content in full shade. Perfect for under trees or the north side of the house.

How to plant

Plants should be planted with a 1 foot spacing.*

*For the Mesic Prairie Kit: Because of its weak stem, Royal catchfly needs a support buddy. Surround it with sturdy plants like prairie coneflower, purple coneflower or wild bergamot.

Step 1. Clear the area

- It is best to start with bare soil. Remove weeds from the area (remove as many roots as possible!)

Step 2. Dig a hole

-The hole should be the same depth as the pot you are planting and about double the width

Step 3. Remove plant from pot and place the plant in the hole

- Grab the base of the stem close to potting soil. Gently pull the plant as you squeeze the pot. Royal Catchfly has weaker stems so it may be best to save that one for last so gain some experience first.

Step 4. Water the plant thoroughly inside the hole*

-Watering the plant and the hole ensures that the lower roots receive the moisture they need before filling the hole

Step 5. Fill the hole with the soil from the hole and then water again*

*Watering during planting may not be necessary. If rain is in the forecast and temperatures are cool then the plants should be fine!

-After planting check on the plants daily for about a week. If the plant gets too dry then give it some water. If nocturnal mammals pull up the plants then put the plant back and replant it.

What to expect

Year 1- After planting these prairie plants will really focus on sending roots deep into the soil. Help them out by weeding nearby weeds as they germinate. A few plants from this kit may bloom if you're lucky!

Year 2- Most your plants will bloom in the second year

Year 3+- Things should really be getting exciting now! Your mature plants will form clumps with many stems full of flowers! These flowers will be covering in various pollinators such as hummingbirds, butterflies, moths, and bees. In the fall your pollinator planting will produce a nice batch of seed. We recommend leaving the majority of this seed for the wildlife and to help fill in any gaps in your prairie planting. We also recommend harvesting some of the seeds and starting new plantings and sharing with friends!

If you have any questions feel free to message us on facebook, Instagram or through our e-mail!



Prairie coneflower, wild bergamot, and royal catchfly in peak bloom



Stiff Goldenrod



Royal Catchfly



Wild Bergamot



Purple Coneflower with Monarch