

Tips for Success

Water: Water your plants immediately after taking them out of the box. Give them enough water so that the soil appears damp and water trickles out the bottom of the pot.

Plants look Dry or Foliage appears Lackluster: Sometimes plants may appear dried out and wilted after the voyage. Do not despair. When this happens the foliage may look lackluster but the rootstock is still perfectly healthy and alive. To plump your plants back up, water them and wait 5 minutes and then water them again. This will generally rehydrate them. Keep these plants well-watered until you can re-plant them into larger containers or in the garden within the next week. If plants arrive dry, it is often because the roots have outgrown the small shipping pots and need more room to grow; roots tend to dry out quickly in small containers. Your plants are very much alive and when you transplant them into larger pots or the earth, they will start growing quickly! So, re-plant them as soon as possible. Cut away any yellow or brown foliage. If your plants are looking a bit stringy, you may cut most of the foliage back to the soil to encourage fresh growth.

Time to Plant! Your plants are now ready to be replanted. Follow the planting guide inside for detailed instructions on how to most effectively plant your new plants.

First Year Maintenance: For perennials, the first year (or sometimes two) will require additional maintenance. During the first season of growth, even if the plant is known to be drought-tolerant, it is very important to water your plants on a regular basis, meaning up to 3-4 times per week. When plants are in their infancy stage, they need to be watered by their caretaker until they've had a chance to build a strong enough root system to subsist on their own. If you are experiencing severe heat, drought like conditions, or your plants appear consistently droopy, you may need to water your plants almost every day.

Ice Plant: This is one of the very best ground covers to plant throughout the sunny areas of the garden. This succulent blooms all summer long and looks fantastic planted along walkways, at the front of the borders, between perennials, in a rock garden, xeriscapes, or in containers where they can spill over the edges. Planted in the partial sun they will grow very thick and lush, whereas if planted in the full sun they won't grow as large, but will produce more flowers.



Roberta's Gardens PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



Hardy Succulent Ice Plant
Delosperma cooperi hybrids

We aren't happy if you aren't happy. If you have any questions regarding your order please call us at **1-800-428-9726** during the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm EST. You can email questions to us at: plantquestions@robertasinc.com.

If your bulbs, cuttings, etc. do not sprout, or your plant dies within one year from the date of shipment, we will send you a replacement free of charge. We cannot accept responsibility for losses due to extreme weather or neglect. Simply call us at the above toll tree number or fill out the plant replacement form on our website at RobertasUniqueGardens.com.

Roberta's will replace it with a similar or comparable plant at no charge. If your replacement is not available or it is too late in the season to ship, it will ship the following year.

Perennials

*Thank You
for bringing us into
your home*

Roberta's Unique Gardens
P.O. Box 368, Waldron, IN 46182
Monday – Friday 8:30AM – 4:30PM EST

RobertasUniqueGardens.com

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Quick Reference

 **Plant Type:** Perennial

 **Light/Sun:** Full Sun

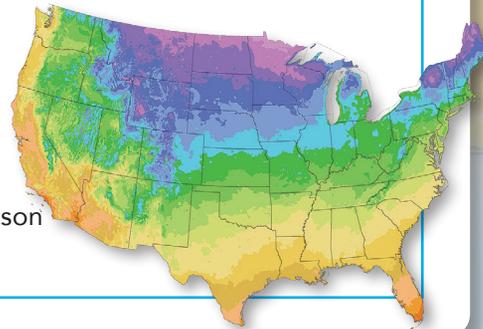
 **Mature Height:** 3-5"

 **Mature Spread:** 18-20"

 **Bloom Time:**

Summer to Fall, by second season

 **USDA Hardiness Zones:** 5 to 10



Plant Caretaking

Upon Arrival: Please take plants out of the box immediately and remove any shipping materials from around the plants. Give them some water and place them in a warm sunny area for 1-2 days before replanting. Place them outside as long as evening temperatures are above 40F.

Planting Depth & Spacing: Dig a deep enough hole so that the entire plant easily fits into the hole and the top of the soil line of your plant is flush with the top of the soil in the hole you have dug. It is important that the soil line of your plant does not protrude above the soil line in the ground or container. Plants will grow about 10-12" around the first season and another 8-10" the second season. If you are a patient gardener space plants about 20-24" apart, otherwise space 12-18" apart.

Potted Plants: Make sure your container has holes to allow excess water to drain. You may place a single plant in an 8-10" container, or place multiple plants in a larger container.

Soil Preparation: Ice Plant prefers soil that is light and porous; not rich and wet. Most standard potting mixes are fine. They will also do well in rocky, sandy soils.

Watering: To determine if your plant needs water, put your finger in the top of the soil and if the top inch is dry, it is time to water. It is important to make sure young plants do not experience long periods of dryness. However, they also do not like soggy conditions. Starting the second season they will be more drought tolerant.

Fertilizer: Use Roberta's Bounty a couple weeks after planting and then once or twice a month all summer long.

Pet Considerations: Ensure your pets do not consume plants.

Pruning: If plants are a bit stringy, you may cut back foliage to 3-4". This will encourage fresh, thicker growth.

Planting Steps

Step 1 Remove netting and/or sleeve from around the tray or pot. Discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil. If you cannot plant it into garden or larger pots within a few days, give them a drink of water in their trays. Place them outside if evening temperatures remain above 40F.

Step 2 On the day of planting, if plants are growing into each other you may simply pull apart carefully or even cut them apart. This "haircut" actually stimulates thicker growth.

Step 3 They pop out individually very easily by pushing upwards on the bottom of the tray or pot directly under each plant.

Step 4 Dig holes twice the width of the root ball and about 5 to 6 inches deep. Place them in their holes. Pack soil firmly around roots. Fill with soil and pack in firmly covering entire root zone. Water them in well making sure the entire root ball is hydrated.

Step 5 Transplant into the garden or containers as soon as evening temperatures stay above 40F. Dig holes the width of the root ball and deep enough so that the original top of the soil is flush with the new soil line. Water the new location before and after planting your plant. This will help the young roots stay hydrated. Once you've placed your plant in the hole, fill in the rest of the hole with extra soil or potting mix, ensuring the entire root system is covered with soil.

