

Gomphocarpus Hairy Balls™

(Balloon Cottonbush)

Gomphocarpus physocarpus



FLOWER/GARDEN SIZE: Height: 47 inches, tender perennial (USDA Zone 6b)

NOVELTY CHARACTERISTICS: Light green, round, inflated fruit with soft spines on long arching stems.

MARKET USE: Cut flower, butterfly garden

CULTURAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

CONTAINER SIZE:

SOWING: 288 plug tray or direct sow in field/greenhouse

FINISH CONTAINER: Gallon or field

PLUG STAGE:

GERMINATION: Emergence 7-10 days / 68-86°F; needs light to germinate

PLUG FINISH TIME: 4 - 6 weeks from sow

FINISHING:

DAYS TO FLOWER FROM Sow February/March, transplant in April, harvest July/August/ 120 to 130 days – plants

SOW: require 12 hour daylength to flower

TEMPERATURE: 58- 60°F day

pH: 5.6-6.0

GARDEN: Prefers full sun and well drained conditions

NOTES:

- Plants should be transplanted in an early stage as they form a taproot which should not be disturbed
- Harvest when pods are green and do not let them develop a red blotch as then they are too ripe and can burst open
- Plant closer together if you grow them un-pinched; plant them 20-25 inches (50 to 60 cm) apart if you pinch the top at the fifth or sixth leaf. This encourages the growth of side shoots.

Descriptions, illustrations, photos and disease resistance, etc. are based upon the results obtained under favorable conditions and certain races of pathogens/diseases. Identical results are not guaranteed nor implied for all growing conditions. Information is based on average data compiled. Physical characteristics, adaptability and disease tolerance may vary under different conditions. Rev B

