

## Tips for Success

**Water:** Once you have gotten your bulbs planted, give them a generous watering. Continue to water throughout the autumn and winter if the soil is not getting sufficient precipitation from rain or snow. Determine if they need water by putting your finger in the top of the soil and if the top inch is dry then that means it is time to water. They resent soggy conditions and will rot if left in soil that is too wet.

**When to Plant My Bulbs:** These bulbs should be planted in the fall. When planted in the autumn, they will produce a root system during the winter in order to produce flowers in mid to late spring.

**What if I forgot to Plant some Bulbs?:** If the bulbs still look plump and are firm to the touch then plant them! Most bulbs are pretty tough and will still perform, albeit later than if they had been planted in the fall.

**Plant Care after Flowers have finished:** After the flowers have finished you may cut the flowers down as low as possible. During the summer the plants will begin to go dormant and wither away. Once the foliage begins to finish, you may cut the plant material back and remove from the garden, leaving the bulbs in place.

**What is that Musky Smell?:** Fritillaria bulbs and plants are known to exude a rather musky scent that is either loved or hated by gardeners. If the smell does not suit you, make sure to plant far enough away from any outdoor seating you may use. The upside is that the smell will also deter rodents from your plants.



## Roberta's Gardens PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



**Fritillaria Red Crown Imperials**  
*Fritillaria imperialis*



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](mailto: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 free number or fill out the plant replacement form on our website at [www.robertasinc.com](http://www.robertasinc.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.

Neither the retailer nor any other company involved in the sale or promotion of this product is a co-warrantor of this plant warranty.

Perennials

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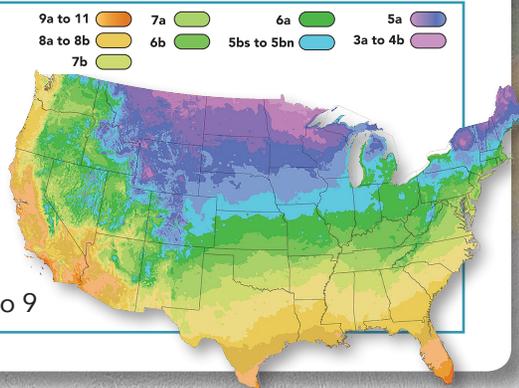
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## Quick Reference

-  Plant Type: Perennial
-  Light/Sun: Full Sun
-  Mature Height: 2-4'
-  Mature Spread: 1'
-  Bloom Time: Late spring
-  USDA Hardiness Zones: 5 to 9



## Plant Caretaking

**Upon Arrival:** Please take plants out of the box immediately and remove any shipping materials from around the plants.

**Planting Depth & Spacing:** Dig a hole about 6-8" deep. If possible add a 1-2" layer of sand, grit, or perlite at the bottom of the hole to encourage drainage. Space bulbs about 10-12" apart.

**Potted Plants:** Fritillaria excel in containers and tubs. Plant about 6" below the surface of the soil. You may plant 2-3 bulbs in an 18" container.

**Soil Preparation:** Bulbs need a site with soil that is well-draining and will receive about 6 hours of sunlight a day. Amend heavy soils with potting mix, sand or perlite. Add a layer of mulch on top of the bulbs after planting to add winter protection.

**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. Beware, bulbs do not like soggy environments. Generally watering every 7 days or so is sufficient if there is no precipitation.

**Where to Plant:** Bulbs love a sunny location that drains well. They make a striking addition to the borders and flower beds. They also make wonderful potted plants.

**Fertilizer:** Use Roberta's Bounty a couple weeks after planting in the fall and then again once in the spring when sprouts emerge.

**Pruning:** Foliage will naturally begin to wither away. Once they begin to die back you may cut the plants back. At this point stop watering your plant.

## Planting Steps

**Step 1** Remove plastic bag or sleeve from around the bulbs and discard any packing materials. If necessary, you may store bulbs for a month or longer in a cool dry place.

**Step 2** Bulbs require soil that drains well year round. When choosing your garden location, it is helpful to amend heavy soils with potting mix, sand or perlite. Dig a hole about 6-8 inches deep. Fritillaria will especially appreciate a layer of sand, gravel or grit at the base of the hole beneath the bulb to encourage better draining and avoiding rot.

**Step 3** These bulbs have a hollow center and can be planted on their side to prevent water build up. They may also be planted with the pointy side up. Place the bulb in the hole and backfill with soil or well-draining potting mix.

**Step 4** Water in bulbs nicely right after planting. Continue to water through the winter if there is not adequate rainfall. Bulbs do not like soggy conditions, so only water when necessary. Generally watering every 7-10 days is sufficient.

**Step 6** Apply a 1-2" layer of mulch on top of planting site to add winter protection. You may remove this mulch in the spring and replace with a top layer of compost.

