

Alyssum

Lobularia maritima

Alyssum is a beautiful garden favourite that can be used as edging or as a ground cover. It's a great bee attracting plant that also attracts 'good bugs' such as lady beetles and other predatory bugs for your vegetable garden. It will self-seed and is low maintenance, making it a fantastic addition to your garden.

Alyssum is a low growing annual flower that is very hardy and easy to grow, especially from seed. Germination rate is high, meaning you're likely to get a lot of plants from a small number of seeds. It will do well in most conditions – from full sun to light shade. While they are drought tolerant, these beautiful flowers will do best with consistent moisture.

Recommendations:

To easily identify your seedlings, label your stake.

Alyssum requires light to germinate, so do not cover the seed with soil. Can tolerate a light covering of sand.

Plant around the edges of your vege garden to assist with pest control. Alyssum will naturally reseed and can grow year-round.

Snails and slugs love alyssum. They can be used as a sacrificial plant.

To save your seed:

As the flowers dry out a disc will form. Each disc contains multiple seeds. Wait until the flower stem is completely dry, and rub the discs between your fingers so the seeds fall out.

Be sure to let them dry completely before storing them. Store in a sealed container in a cool and dry place.

Remember to label your seeds with the name and date of when they were collected.