



# FACT SHEET

## Anemones & Ranunculus

The best value-for-money bulbs available, anemones and ranunculus flower for an extended period each spring. They are among the earliest bulbs available each year, reflecting more their Northern Hemisphere supply rather than any special requirement for early planting.

A few simple tips can help ensure successful growing and a great flower display.

### Planting – when and how

Although available earlier, they should be planted from early March onwards as they prefer cooler conditions. They will flower from early to mid winter and continue flowering until early spring when warmer conditions shut them down. Partial shade is tolerated, and can help produce longer flower stems.

Both anemones and ranunculus will be hard and dry, as they are in a very dormant state. To break their dormancy, they should be refrigerated for between three and six weeks prior to planting. This is best done by placing them in damp sawdust and then in the fridge. They will absorb moisture and start to germinate. Plant them as soon as you see the emergence of roots or a shoot, and water in well once planted.



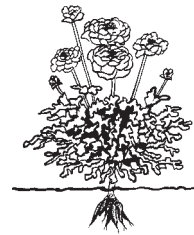
Anemone corms will generally have a cone shape, and the point of this should be planted downwards. The small tuft visible on the wide flat end is not last year's roots, but the remains of last year's flower stem. Ranunculus

tubers consist of a number of claws connected to a central crown at the top. The claws should be planted downwards.

Keep moist after planting, but do not overwater.

### Care while growing

Anemones and ranunculus like to be well fertilised while growing. Either a general purpose fertiliser or a specific bulb fertiliser would be quite suitable. Composted animal manure is also good. Do not let the plants become too dry, as this will cause the older leaves to die back quickly, leaving the plants looking rather straggly, and will also cause flowering to stop.



### Flowering

Kept adequately watered with a little fertiliser applied every month, the plants will produce flowers over a period of several months. Ranunculus flowers are long lasting in the vase and should be picked when the flower heads have half unfurled from their tight bud stage. Anemones will have a longer vase life if they have been through two or three opening and closing (day and night) cycles on the plant before cutting.

### Care after flowering

With warmer temperatures in late spring, the plants will begin to die back. The corms and tubers can be harvested and reused the next year, but the tubers available for sale are younger with more vigour and will give better results.

