

56 Botanical Name: *Dahlia* spp. (Asteraceae)

Common Name: Dahlia

This is a very popular herbaceous or bushy, tuberous, perennial plant, up to 1 m high in double hybrids. Single varieties grow even upto 2 m. Many varieties and cultivars have been developed taking advantage of its genetic variability. Stems purple colored, soft, leafy. Leaves large, dentate, covering major parts of stem. Flower forms are variable, usually there is one head per stem. They are brightly colored, come in a myriad of colors, except bluish. Ray florets are large and multiseriate. Can be planted in beddings, pots or borders, usually propagated by cuttings and tubers. Plants propagated from cuttings generally yield better flowers. Cuttings should be prepared in September or October to get flowers in February March. Cuttings planted in August yields flowers in November and December. For good quality flowers, Dahlia requires proper care. One sp. of Dahlia e.g. *Dahlia variabilis* is also grown through seeds which generally yields single flowers.

Suitable to Grow: in Gardens or pots of size larger than 10".

Flowering Season: Spring (Feb-April)

Flower Color Range: Available in Single or Multicolored varieties having Shades of White Yellow, Orange, Pink, Red, Purple etc



