

Nerine sarniensis – Guernsey Lily

Cultural Hints

Nerines should be kept in a frost free greenhouse during the winter, but they can be placed outside during the summer months.

Re-pot every 4 years in June/July, taking offsets for propagation. Use 4 inch to 5 inch plastic pots. The bulbs should be planted in the following mixture:

- 50% general purpose potting compost
- 50% horticultural grit

The majority of nerines flower from August to October. The foliage appears early in the year, turning yellow in March and completely dies away by April/May. When the foliage is completely dry and crisp it can be removed gently by hand.

From April to August the bulbs appear dormant but they should be kept dry and in a well ventilated environment.

The pots should be watered well once during June and again in July and the bulbs will remain plump and not become dehydrated. In August, as the flower spikes begin to appear, water a little, and increase the amount as the spikes develop. Allow the plants to dry between waterings and if there is any doubt do not water.

Feeding should be done whilst the plants are in growth in the autumn onwards with half strength Tomato feed. Do not overfeed - 2 or 3 times a year will be adequate - and never use high Nitrogen feeds.