

## Gloriosa superba – Glory Lily

Gloriosa superba, commonly known as the Glory Lily is a tender climbing plant in the Lily family originating from Asia and Africa. Gloriosa superba has petals that are yellow at the base with the tips turning from orange to red or scarlet as illustrated. The waxy-edged petals bend backwards revealing the long extruding stamens. These lily-like flowers are produced during the Summer months.

Ranging in height from perhaps 1m to almost 2m their slender stems with sessile (do not have petioles or leafstalks) leaves must have some type of support for the tendrils at the ends of the leaves to cling to. As the vines grow, they can be tied loosely to lattice work, wire, string, trellis or canes. Gloriosa can only be grown out of doors and left in the garden in warm climates. It is very sensitive to frost. In colder climates they must be grown as a houseplant, in the greenhouse, or started indoors in early spring and set out in the garden or as a container plant in late spring after danger of frost has passed.

In warm regions, plant the tubers 10 to 15 cm deep in a moist, rich soil that has had liberal amounts of organic matter such as compost, leaf mould, peat moss or well-rotted manure and coarse sand added to it. They may be grown in full sun or light shade.

### Propagation

Seeds should be sown late Winter or early Spring, temperature should be between 20 & 25°C for optimal germination.

**WHEN TO SOW** – Seeds should be sown late winter or early spring, temperature should be between 20 & 25°C for optimal germination.

**WHERE TO GROW** – Grow in full sun/part shade any soil garden or pot.

**SOWING** – sow in moist loamy but well-drained soil on top and compress lightly then cover. Keep moist.