

Bixa species

PRE-TREATMENT – Can be grown without pre-treatment but it is reported that soaking seeds in warm water for 24 hours prior to sowing or by soaking in a weak acid solution for 5 – 10 minutes prior to sowing will hasten germination.

SOWING – Best time to sow seeds is when temperatures are 20 - 26°C so Autumn and Spring.

Use a good quality seed raising media with added washed river sand.

Put media into seed trays or individual pots and moisten.

Place seeds into trays or pots as deep as they are wide, cover lightly with media.

Water with a fine mist spray as to not dislodge seeds.

Keep in a warm well lit area and wait for seeds to germinate.

Keep the seeds moist but not wet, don't allow to dry out.

Seeds should start sprouting in 4 – 6 weeks.

CULTIVATION – Prick out seedlings out and transplant when they are big enough to handle.

Be sure to put seedlings in a protected frost free area or in a greenhouse over Winter.

Transplant into bigger pots when required.

Plant outdoors after the danger of frosts has passed in Spring.

