

## Product Information

The genus *Celosia* belongs to the family of *Amaranthaceae*, it includes plants very appreciated for their showy inflorescent, colorful and fluffy flowers that rise above the leaves.

*Celosia* is native to tropical regions of Asia and Africa. In most species, flowering begins in late spring and can continue until late fall (autumn) in colder climates. Whereas, in subtropics and tropics, it is grown as a perennial. It is cultivated for its strange looking flowers that resemble a roosters head, that's why it is also called as cockscomb.

## Care Tips

*Celosia* loves sun and heat. The optimum temperature for *celosia* ranges around 18 – 25 ° C and to obtain abundant flowers, exposure to the full sun is essential.

If growing indoors or on a balcony, find Southern or Western exposure for constant blooms.

*Celosia* loves moist soil. Although the plant can tolerate short periods of drought but it grows much better when soil remains slightly moist. While watering, remember not to overwater plant to avoid leaf spots, stem rot, root rot and other fungal diseases. The plant grows well in containers but indoor air in homes remains too dry for flowers to flourish. Help them by running a humidifier next to the plant or by placing the pot on a shallow tray filled with pebbles and a bit of water.

*Celosia* plant thrives in most of the soil types, but it is better to use soil that is rich in organic matter and drains well. The pH level of the soil required should be around 6 to 7. Fertilize *celosia* with liquid fertilizer once a month. When the plant starts to bloom, it needs fertilizer more frequently (every two weeks). Use a fertilizer that is high in nitrogen such as a ratio of 3: 1: 2.

Deadheading encourages the plant to produce more flowers and saves their energy from making seeds. Prune off spent flowers before they set seed with scissors. Before cutting make sure to sterilize the blades by cleaning with alcohol and let it dry before using.

