



Cultivea



Wild Cactus

Pitaya "Dragon Fruit" • Ferocactus • Pilosocereus • Cactus Mix



QUALITY SEEDS



GIFT IDEA



ECOLOGICAL



Cultivea

Contains

Your kit contains



5 propagation pellets



1 tweezer



4 propagation bags



Instruction guide



1 vermiculite bag



4 biodegradable pots



4 seeds packets



4 plant markers



PDF



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Cacti varieties

In this booklet you will find all the information and advice you need to successfully grow your cacti. We have carefully selected high quality seed varieties of different shapes and textures that will give your indoor or outdoor space a touch of desert, originality and elegance.

PITAYA DRAGON FRUIT



It is the *Hylocereus undatus*, which produces the red pitaya fruit, still called the dragon fruit, which is a climbing cactus; it belongs to the Cactaceae family. Its exact origin is not known, except that it comes from the American continent, as its cultivation has spread throughout the world. It is particularly cultivated in Asia for its large, sweet and nourishing fruits.

FEROCACTUS



Ferocactus are cultivated for their colored and often hook-shaped spines. During their young age they are often globular, but with age they become more elongated. The number of ribs generally varies with the age of the Ferocactus. The flowers of these cacti always grow at the top of the plant.

PILOSOCEREUS

It is a columnar cactus (the etymology of the name refers to the "candle") with 4 to 12 sides, with a bluish, gray or greenish skin and nocturnal flowers. *Pilosocereus pachycladus*, *leucocephalus*, *gounellei* and *polygonus* are the best known species of the genus.



CACTUS MIX

This is a mixture of about 8 species of Cactus harvested from natural populations throughout the southwestern United States. Barrel varieties, *Cephalocereus senilis* (Old Man) and Column varieties.

The Barrel cactus has a ferocious appearance, with its long ornamental needles. These cylindrical cacti usually reach 5 to 6 inches in diameter, but can grow to 1 foot or more. They are among the largest cacti in North American deserts. Large yellow or orange flowers appear in summer on the oldest specimens. The flowers always develop at the top of the cactus.



Cephalocereus senilis (Old man) cacti resemble a tree and are native to Mexico. They are resistant to cold and have red, yellow or white flowers. Their main characteristic is the long white hairs near the tips of the branches. The hairy surface of the cactus helps to reflect sunlight from the hot deserts.

The Column Cactus corresponds exactly to its name, one of the most upright and resistant cacti. It is very easy to work with this cactus, we plant it in places where other cacti would have difficulty growing. This species reaches 3 to 6 feet if grown indoors. The Column Cactus are blue-green with brown stripes. The flowers are white and the outer petals take on various colors and open at night.



The sowing

Seeds				
Instructions				
 Sowing	Spring.April to October	Spring.April to October	Spring to autumn. April to October	In the summer period. Spring or summer.
 Watering	Medium, once every 10 days in the growing season, once a month in winter.	Every 10 days in spring and summer. Once a month in autumn.	Winter: None. Summer: Medium.	Water when the soil is almost dry.
 Sun	Sun, half shade in the heat.	Avoid direct sunlight, which can cause burns	Lively and bright, full sun accepted.	Very bright.
 Soil	Clay, limestone, sandy, stony, heath, humus, potting soil.	Sandy soil, stony soil, humus.	Sandy and dry soil.	Well-drained, slightly moist soil.
 Growth	Fast, but this could be a bit longer, so don't give up.	Slow, so that its aesthetic qualities can be enjoyed for many years.	Quite fast if you maintain it properly.	Cacti are slow growing, so patience is required.
 Temperature	Maintain a temperature of 20°C to 30°C.	25 °C minimum during the sowing period. Between 8 and 20 °C in winter.	Minimum temperature 12°C.	Between 25°C and 30°C during the day and around 20°C at night.

How to sow your cacti?



1. Fill a bowl with lukewarm water and place a peat disc in it for 5 minutes.



2. Once the peat mound is well swollen, wring it out well to remove excess water.



3. Place the potting soil in one of the pots, being careful not to pack it down too much so that the seeds can breathe.



4. The potting soil must be moist but not wet. Mix $\frac{1}{4}$ with a teaspoon of vermiculite in the top layer of potting soil ($\frac{1}{2}$ cm). Keep the rest of the vermiculite.



5. Sprinkle your seeds on the surface of the potting soil and cover with a thin layer of potting soil that will barely cover the seeds, 0.3 to 0.5 cm maximum of potting soil (do not press the seeds too deeply).



6. Sprinkle a thin layer of vermiculite over the seeds once sown.



7. Place your biodegradable pots in one of the plastic bags and close them to keep the heat and humidity.



8. Place the pots in a warm and bright place to activate germination (no direct sunlight).



9. Maintain a temperature of 20°C up to 35°C. This temperature can easily be reached in winter, next to a heat source. Rest assured, the temperature inside the plastic bag will be higher than outside.



10. Check the moisture content of the potting soil regularly, to avoid dryness, water occasionally by placing the pot in a container, pour about 4 tablespoons of water in the bottom, so that the pot absorbs the water from the bottom, (do not water from the top).



11. Open the sachet 5 minutes a day to renew the air, or at least once a week. The speed of sprouting will largely depend on this temperature, but with an ideal temperature, the seeds should germinate within 3 weeks.



12. As soon as the young shoots appear, take the pot out of the plastic bag to stop the humidity and prevent the young plants from rotting. Take out in individual cups when the seedlings are 3 to 4 cm tall.



How to repot your cacti

In general, cacti, like all plants, need repotting from time to time. You can repot the cacti from spring to early summer, to give the roots time to settle before winter. It is advisable to carry out this operation during the months of March and April.

Preparation of the container

Choose a container a little larger than the previous one with a diameter greater than 2cm in relation to the size of the body of the plant. The pot will have been sterilized beforehand to avoid any propagation of cryptogamic diseases or parasites.



At the bottom of the pot, place clay beads to facilitate water drainage. Cover it with a drainage layer (gravel, pebbles, pozzolana...) of a few centimeters.

In a separate container, prepare your mixture. Your cacti will need a **substrate composed of 1/3 soil, 1/3 coarse river sand (no beach sand) and 1/3 garden soil.**



The cacti will prefer a slightly richer mixture, you can add some compost or organic amendment to the preparation.

Filing

In a first time, to delicately depot the plant. Any traction on the stem and other twisting movements will be to be proscribed, it is even better to break the pot to extract the plant without breaking it, or gently lift part of the potting soil with a fork to remove all the fine young roots without breaking them. Gently hold the cactus with the pliers provided in the kit to protect your fingers.

Installation

The delicate moment is approaching! To grasp the plant, bring your gloves or pliers.

Delicately lay your cactus on a mound of substrate (**mixture of compost, coarse river sand and garden soil**) that you had made beforehand, then proceed with the filling by taking care to maintain the plant in the center of the pot. Pack lightly.

Finally, place a layer of mineral material of about 1 cm on the surface to prevent the collar from rotting. Coarse sand, small pebbles, white gravel, pebbles, you have the choice.



A must: Above all, do not water your cacti after repotting, it is preferable to wait at least 10 to 15 days to give the roots time to heal, this is the secret of a successful repotting!

Tips

In general, cactus growth is slow, so patience is required.

To germinate cactus seeds need wet soil that does not dry out. They germinate in 3 to 15 days on average at a temperature maintained at about 25°C and in light shade. The hotter they are, the faster the germination is.

Cacti are hungry for sunshine, especially in summer, make sure they get enough light.

Avoid drafts and do not place cacti on the edges of a window that is poorly insulated.

Our products

