

# TIPS AND FAQs

## UPON ARRIVAL

When you receive your plants, immediately open the package to give your plants some fresh air and remove your plants from the box. Preferably open your box outside or somewhere that you don't mind getting messy, as some of the soil may have been shaken loose in transit.

Remove the plastic bag and sleeve from around the potted plant and discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil.

## WATER

Water your plants immediately after taking them out of the box. Give them enough water so that the soil appears damp and water trickles out the bottom of the pot.

## IF PLANTS APPEAR DRY

Sometimes plants may appear dried out and wilted after the voyage. Do not despair. Generally, when this happens the foliage may look lackluster but the rootstock is still perfectly healthy and alive. To plump your plants back up, water them and wait 5 minutes and then water them again. This will generally rehydrate them. Keep these plants well-watered until you can re-plant them into larger containers or in the garden.

If plants arrive dry, it is often because the roots have outgrown the small shipping pots and need more room to grow; roots tend to dry out quickly in small containers. This also means your plants are very much alive and when you transplant them into larger pots or the earth, they will start growing quickly! So, re-plant them as soon as possible.

## YELLOW OR BROWN LEAVES

When you receive your plants, there may be some yellowed or browned foliage on the plant. This is normal. Pull those leaves off your plant. This will encourage new leaves to grow.

If a lot of your plant looks yellow or brown and it makes your worried, take some scissors and cut your plant back, leaving about one inch of stem on the plant. This will give your plant a chance to restart and will promote bushier first season growth.

## TIME TO PLANT!

Your plants are now ready to be replanted! Pick a large container or area of the garden that you wish to place your plants. Give the soil you are about to plant into a nice deep watering before planting your plant. Pop your plants out of the shipping containers, replant, and water again.

We recommend replanting in the morning or evening when outside temperatures are not at extremes. This will allow for proper water uptake from the roots.

## FIRST YEAR MAINTENANCE

For perennials, the first year (or sometimes two) will require additional maintenance. During the first season of growth, even if the plant is known to be drought-tolerant, it is very important to water your plants on a regular basis, meaning up to 3-4 times per week. When plants are in their infancy stage, they need to be watered by their caretaker until they've had a chance to build a strong enough root system to subsist on their own. If you are experiencing severe heat, drought like conditions or your plants appear consistently droopy, you may need to water your plants almost every day.

## HOW MUCH DO THESE GET CUT BACK AND WHEN?

In early spring, gradually remove any winter cover. Cut back old stems all the way to the ground; large clumps may be divided after 2 to 3 years. To maintain a tidier look, you may cut these back half way in early fall and finish the job in early spring.

## ATTRIBUTES OF THE Sugar Buzz® Series

This series is highly resistant to powdery mildew, produce very compact dome-like clumps in the garden, and have some of the brightest flowers we've seen, attracting all sorts of pollinators.



## Our Warranty (Perennials)

We aren't happy if you aren't happy. If you have any questions regarding your order please call us at 1-800-428-9726 during the hours of 8:30am and 4:30pm EST.

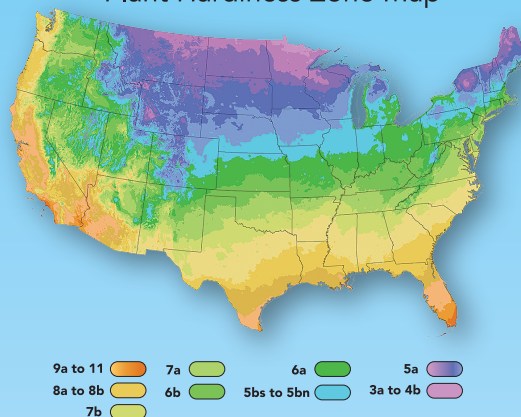
You can email questions to us at:  
[plantquestions@robertasinc.com](mailto:plantquestions@robertasinc.com).

If your bulbs, cuttings etc. do not sprout, or your plant dies within one year from the date of shipment, we will send you a replacement free of charge. We cannot accept responsibility for losses due to extreme weather or neglect. Simply call us at the above toll free number or fill out the plant replacement form on our website at [www.robertasinc.com](http://www.robertasinc.com).

Roberta's will replace it with a similar or comparable plant at no charge. If your replacement is not available or it is too late in the season to ship, it will ship the following year.

Neither the retailer nor any other company involved in the sale or promotion of this product is a co-warrantor of this plant warranty.

## Plant Hardiness Zone Map



1-800-428-9726

Monday – Friday 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM EST

Thank you  
for bringing us into your home

[www.robertasinc.com](http://www.robertasinc.com)



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Roberta's Unique Gardens

Roberta's, P.O. Box 368, Waldron, IN 46182



## ROBERTA'S GARDENS PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



Sugar Buzz® Series Bee Balm  
(Mondarda didyma hybrids)



## QUICK REFERENCE PLANTING GUIDE

LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE:	Full to Part Sun
USDA HARDINESS ZONES:	4-9
PLANT TYPE	Perennial
PLANTING DISTANCE:	24"
MATURE HEIGHT/SPREAD:	16-20" 22-26"
BLOOM TIME:	Summer, by 2nd season

## PLANTING GUIDE

1

STEP

Remove plastic bag and sleeve from around potted plant(s). Discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil. Pull away any yellow or brown leaves or spent flowers that may have occurred during transit. If you cannot plant into the garden or a larger pot right away, make sure the plants stay well-watered.

2

STEP

Water your plants just before popping them out of the shipping containers. Transplant into the garden as soon as evening temperatures stay above 40F. Dig holes the width of the root ball and about 5-6 inches deep. Place them in the holes and pack soil around the roots, filling the hole and making sure all the roots are covered with soil. Water them well again.

3

STEP

Alternatively, you may plant them in containers. Transplant into a larger container that slightly less wide than the maximum width your plant is expected to grow as indicated above. You may also choose an even larger container and plant multiple plants together in the same pot.

4

STEP

It is important to keep new plants well-watered for their first year of growth, making sure they do not become dried out for prolonged periods. This may mean watering your plants 3-4 times per week or more, depending on your region's weather. As years progress, your plants will not require as much care.

5

STEP

Planted now, your plants will produce flowers in the summer the first or second season.

## CONTINUING CARE

### SHELF LIFE

Plant into garden or larger pots and place outside immediately after the night temperatures stay above 40 degrees.

### PLANT PREPARATION

Remove plastic bag and sleeve from around potted plant(s). Discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil. Pull away any yellow or brown leaves that may have occurred during transit. If you cannot plant it into garden or larger pot within a few days, make sure it stays well-watered.

### PLANTING DEPTH AND SPACING

Dig a hole that is about 5-6" deep and about twice the width of the root ball. After you've placed the plant in the hole, cover with soil ensuring all the roots have been covered. In the garden, space about 24" apart.

### POTTED PLANTS

Rather than in the garden you may re-pot into large containers. Re-pot the plants into a container that is slightly smaller than the max width the plant is expected to grow. This will allow your container to fill out nicely. You may also plant multiple plants together in an even larger pot.

### SOIL PREPARATION

Plants prefer well draining soil. Amend clay type soils with compost or potting mix.

### GARDEN LOCATION

They love sunny areas. Plant as a second layer in the garden bed or border.

### PLANT HEIGHT AND WIDTH

These grow to about 16-20" tall and 22-26" wide.

### WATER

Water upon planting and every couple days the first season. Keep moist and add a layer of mulch around base of plants to keep cool.

### FERTILIZER

They respond to feeding with a high bloom fertilizer like Roberta's Bounty. Fertilizing every two weeks is recommended.

### LIGHTING

In the summer growing season full sun is the best, but partial will be acceptable

### BLOOMING

Under correct conditions blooming begins in summer and lasts into early fall, by the second season.

### TEMPERATURE ZONE 4-9

They can withstand winter temperatures to about minus -20F

### PRUNING

In early spring, gradually remove any winter cover. Cut back old stems all the way to the ground. You may divide large clumps after 2-3 years. If you prefer a tidier look, prune plants

## ADDITIONAL REFERENCE



Shipped  
As Shown

