

URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

From Seed to Harvest: A beginner's guide to growing Coreopsis

Coreopsis, also known as tickseed or pot of gold, is a long-lasting flower that grows in most any area in the United States. The plant is referred to as tickseed because its seeds resemble ticks. Coreopsis are in the Asteraceae family, and the blooms are similar to those of a daisy. Coreopsis blooms come in colors of yellow, red, pink and white, and many blooms have a maroon or dark brown center. There are many different varieties of Coreopsis available, with more than 100 different species.

To plant:

Coreopsis are an easy flower to grow, and all they need is to be planted in an area that receives full sun. Since the seeds require light to germinate, so don't cover them. Just gently press the seeds into the soil. Keep the seeds moist until they germinate, which can take up to 21 days. Plant more seeds in succession to have Coreopsis blooms all summer long. Coreopsis also will grow in partial shade, but the plants will become lankier if not grown in full sun. Although Coreopsis do well when sown directly outdoors, they also can be started indoors up to six weeks before the last frost.

To grow:

Once the plants are established, they are easy to care for. Coreopsis are native to the United States, and they only require watering during extreme droughts. Deadhead the plants once the blooms are spent, as this encourages more blooms to grow. Cut the flowers back by one-third each summer, as this will encourage a continued display of blooms. Most varieties grow in clumps, but certain varieties can reach 18



[Lance Leaved Coreopsis seeds available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

inches tall. The taller varieties may need to be staked to remain upright. Many varieties of Coreopsis will self-sow and come back year after year. Coreopsis grow well as a border or when used as a filler, since its blooms are long lasting. Their colors pair well with coneflower, irises and Gaillardia.

To harvest:

Many kinds of Coreopsis will begin blooming in the early summer and last until fall. They make great cut flowers due to their long-lasting blooms and long stems. Although Coreopsis often self-sow themselves, it is also possible to save the seeds for future planting. To do so, wait until after the flowers have bloomed and the petals begin to fall away from the center. The center is where the seeds form. Harvest the seed head while it is still tightly formed enough to keep the seeds enclosed. Snip off the seed head and open it to extract the seeds.



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What Coreopsis craves:

Since Coreopsis are native to the United States, they do not require fertilization. Fertilization can actually decrease the flower production.

Where to buy Coreopsis seeds:

Urban Farmer sells flowers that are deer resistant and make great cut flowers.

Check out our Coreopsis seed selection on our website at [ufseeds.com!](http://ufseeds.com)



[Plains Coreopsis seeds available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)



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