URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

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

Stachy are also known as Lamb's Ears, and they are a very popular, soft plant to use as groundcover. These plants can grow up to a foot long, and although they do occasionally produce flowers, they are mostly used for the appearance of their leaves. The leaves feel fuzzy and velvety, like a lamb's ear. This plant is considered an herbaceous perennial and the flower stalk can reach as tall as 18 inches, although the foliage stays low to the ground. These plants are frequently used as borders along flower beds. These plants make great companion plants in a rose garden. It also is drought-tolerant enough to allow it to survive if planted in a rock garden.

To plant:

Plant Lamb's Ear seeds inside in the late winter, which is typically eight to 10 weeks before the last frost in your area. Press the seeds lightly into the soil, but do not cover them because they require light to germinate. Keep the seeds moist until they germinate, which should be within 35 days. Also, be sure to keep the seeds near 70 degrees. When spring arrives, transplant the seedlings outside and pinch them back to stimulate growth. Space the seedlings about 16 inches apart.

To grow:

Stachy grows best in full sun or partial shade, and it prefers well-draining soil that can be evenly moist to dry with a pH of 6.0 to 6.5. They are grown in USDA Hardiness Zones 4 to 7, and they are native to the Middle East region. Keep in mind these plants will spread easily. They self-seed and also have roots that creep underground.



Stachy seed available at ufseeds.com Add edging if you want to help prevent invasive spreading. Stachy are deer resistant and rabbit resistant. These plants are drought tolerant, and be sure you don't overhead water, as this will possibly rot the leaves. Once the tall spikes bloom flower, if you don't find them appealing to your landscaping, you can prune them off. A way to keep the plant from self-seeding is to remove the flower stalks before they ao to seed.

To harvest:

As they are typically used as groundcover, these plants are not ones you would harvest.

What Stachy craves:

Since Stachy spreads easily, fertilizer is not needed to help grow this plant. Instead, mulch around the base of the plant and provide a layer of compost each spring.

Where to buy Stachy seeds:

Urban Farmer carries Stachy seeds on our website at ufseeds.com!





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