

# Pansies

## *Pansies: A Colorful Addition to the Gardens*

Ideal for fall gardens, pansies offer a colorful display for almost 6 months; in the fall when they are planted, in the winter during a stretch of sunny days, and again in spring! Winter pansies may be planted anytime starting in mid September thru the beginning of October.

As with any plant, pansies perform better if the soil that you place them in is well prepared. Choose a planting location that is well-drained and work in 4 to 6 inches of organic matter. Some excellent choices for organic matter include: garden compost, peat moss, or Bumper Crop. Plant pansies at about the same level, or slightly higher, than they were growing in their market packs or containers, take care not to plant too deeply or the plants may rot. After planting, mulch and water the bed thor-

oughly. Remember to check garden beds often during the first 3 weeks after planting, or until new growth begins, to ensure adequate moisture necessary for healthy growth.

Add a drift of single colored pansies or a mass of mixed colors to brighten the autumn, or spring, landscape. Try tucking single plants in garden beds around perennials and shrubs that have finished blooming to brighten up an otherwise dreary section of the landscape. Pansies will also do well in containers placed on a deck or patio or next to the entrance to your home to greet your fall, or spring, guests.

