

URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

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

Heuchera are more commonly known as coral bells due to the flower's shape. Originally, Heuchera was available in Purple Palace varieties, but different colors have been introduced to the gardening world. Heuchera's bell-shaped flowers attract hummingbirds to the garden. Its leaves are popular and originally green, but shades have expanded to include purple, gold, rose and more. Heuchera are native to North America.

To plant:

Heuchera can be started from seed or divisions. If growing a hybrid Heuchera, it is suggested to use divisions of the parent plants so the offspring looks like the parents. If growing from seed, scatter the seed on the soil's surface in late fall or early spring. Don't cover the seeds with soil because they require light to germinate. Seeds can be started indoors, but they require a couple of months to become established prior to transplanting. Heuchera seeds can take up to two weeks to germinate. If Heuchera seeds are planted in the fall, it will produce more flowers the following spring.

To grow:

Heuchera can tolerate full sun but do best in partial shade, as too much sun can create washed-out leaves. If grown in full sun, be sure to water extra. Heuchera grows best in soil with a pH of 6.0 to 7.0. The soil must have good drainage, especially if Heuchera is planted in a shady area. After the coral bells flower, cut back the flower stalk to direct more energy into the leaves. Regularly check to make sure the roots aren't exposed, and mulch around the plant to protect it



[Coral Bell's Purple Palace Heuchera seeds available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

during the winter months. If leaves become dull or ragged, cut them back in the winter and new growth will appear. Heuchera leaves are evergreen, which makes them an excellent groundcover.

If coral bells are grown in a damp and shady area, they can be prone to fungus. If fungus begins to cause problems, move the Heuchera to a sunnier, drier area. Heuchera are popular for deer.

To harvest:

Heuchera blooms will appear in late spring and early summer. Heuchera plants are typically not harvested as they are mostly grown for their leaves, but the flowers provide a burst of color and attract hummingbirds to the garden. Heuchera seed pods should be harvested after the pods are dry but have yet to open.



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What Heuchera craves:

Fertilize Heuchera by applying a slow-release fertilizer up to three times a year. Use a 5-10-5 fertilizer if growing Heuchera for its blooms. If growing Heuchera in poor quality soil, also add a top dressing of fertilizer once a year.

Where to buy Heuchera seeds:

Urban Farmer's Heuchera seeds provide great groundcover to any garden.

Check out our Heuchera seed selection on our website at ufseeds.com!



Ruby Bells Heuchera seeds available at ufseeds.com



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