



The World's Most Popular Winter Annual!

How about that for a statement? The Pansy, and all its relatives, is the world's most popular annual, though Impatiens is probably right up there jostling for popularity. Pansy and Viola seedling sales are generally very strong in autumn once the weather has begun to cool down.

Why is the Pansy so popular? Well....find another annual that will flower for so long throughout autumn, winter and spring! A few punnets of Pansy seedlings planted out now will ensure you colour from when they start flowering (a few weeks) until close to Christmas!

That's a lot of months of bright, cheerful and happy colour for only a few dollars. I reckon that's great value for money.

All garden centres will have a large seedling selection of Pansy and Viola varieties. Generally, the Viola blooms are smaller but that is really the only difference. All will flower magnificently once the weather cools down and the blooms will become much bigger the colder it gets. Plant the seedlings in a sunny spot, water in with a liquid fertiliser such as

Harvest and then feed with Garden Gold. Removing spent flower heads can help prolong the life of the plants. Pansies and Violas come in virtually every colour of the spectrum and you can make up some wonderful colour displays in pots, hanging baskets, rockeries or anywhere that needs a burst of winter colour.

Look for the new Pansy 'Purple Lace' from Oasis in your garden centre. This has stunning deep velvety purple flowers trimmed with delicate lacy white borders. Team 'Purple Lace' with a bright yellow Pansy or Viola and you have a really vibrant and eye catching mix.

A Little bit of Lettuce

Whilst you are in a 'gardening zone', think about the NEW Multi-Cut Lettuce. These green or red leafed crinkly lettuce can be harvested, not leaf by leaf but as a full head of lettuce. All you do is cut the complete head off two thirds down the stem. It re-grows within a few weeks! If you use a liquid organic fertiliser regularly, you will be able to make another full lettuce head cut for a third regrowth!

What a great concept. Crisp, colourful and delicious, these Multi-Cut Lettuces taste great – not too bitter and not too sweet and very easy to prepare for salads. They are ideal for balcony, patio gardeners who rely on a few pots and troughs in which to grow their plants.

Look for these Multi-Cut Lettuces with the Oasis label in the vegetable seedling section of your local garden centre. Growing Your Own vegetables is easy, rewarding, nutritious and lot of fun.

Life's a garden – dig it!