

Nun's Orchid / Nun's Cap / Ground Orchid

Phalus tankervilliae

Planting Instructions



Hardiness zone: 9

This is a terrestrial orchid but requires very well draining soil or orchid mix - don't let water stand on this plant. Hardy to zone 9, these can be container grow in any climate. This orchid flowers in the winter or early spring and each plant can have multiple flower stems, each reaching as much as 4' high! These bloom just once a year in the spring, but the blooms can last for several weeks and a very fragrant!

Planting Instructions:

Whether planting in a container or the ground, it is important not to plant these too deep. NONE of the green part of the plant should be under soil level. Only the ROOTS should be below soil level. As they grow, even some of the roots will be above ground – see photo:



FOR CONTAINER PLANTING:

The soil should be VERY well draining; an Orchid Mix or other well draining soil is required. Make sure you have good drainage in the bottom of the pot, you may want to put an inch or two of rocks or bark pieces in the bottom of the pot to promote good drainage. They like it on the dry side rather than too wet. Keep your plants in a bright, but out of direct sunlight, area of your home or greenhouse, they do best in full shade, but can take partial sun in more northern zones. Water regularly, but do NOT OVERWATER or let water stand on the plant. Monthly treatment with a water soluble orchid fertilizer will help them grow strong.

FOR GARDEN PLANTING:

If you are in a warm zone and are planning to plant these outside, select an area with well draining, sandy soil in bright or full shade. They like it on the dry side rather than too wet. Keep your plants in a bright area of your home or greenhouse, they do well in bright or full shade (but definitely out of direct sunlight). Water regularly, but do NOT OVERWATER or let water stand on the plant. Monthly treatment with a water soluble, orchid fertilizer will help them grow strong.

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