Peter Knippel Garden Centre

4590 Bank St.
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Earlybird Red and Yellow Columbine

Earlybird™ Red and Yellow Columbine

Aquilegia 'Earlybird Red And Yellow'

Height: 11 inches

Spread: 10 inches

Spacing: 10 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 2b

Other Names: Wild Columbine, Granny's Bonnet

Group/Class: Earlybird Series

Description:

Showy, red nodding flowers with pale yellow centers on slender stems with long, graceful spurs; makes for long lasting cut flowers; controlled habit with short stems on well mounded plants; good for naturalizing partially shaded areas

Ornamental Features

Earlybird Red and Yellow Columbine features bold nodding red bell-shaped flowers with buttery yellow overtones and red spurs at the ends of the stems from mid spring to early summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its ferny compound leaves remain green in colour throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Earlybird Red and Yellow Columbine is an herbaceous perennial with a mounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Insects

Earlybird Red and Yellow Columbine is recommended for the following landscape applications;



Earlybird Red and Yellow Columbine flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



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- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Earlybird Red and Yellow Columbine will grow to be about 9 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 10 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 10 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 6 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant performs well in both full sun and full shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

Earlybird Red and Yellow Columbine is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers against which the thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden. Be aware that in our climate, most plants cannot be expected to survive the winter if left in containers outdoors, and this plant is no exception. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.