

HELLEBORUS DOWNUNDER

Plant Care

Planting - You can plant at any time of the year. First select an area you wish to plant, spade the area nice and deep. When digging holes for plants. Dig deeper than needed for the plant and put some old manure or leaf mulch in the bottom along with some loose soil over that to cover it. Then plant your Hellebore and water in well.

Hellebores do need shade in summer but do try to avoid planting them in very dense permanently shaded positions. They will grow and flower more prolifically if they get good light in the cooler months.

Feeding - A covering of leaf mulch and old manure is of great benefit. I also give them a good sprinkle of 8/9 month Osmocote as this gives the plant a balanced diet during the growing season. For a good crop of flowers, give them a good feed of anything low in nitrogen in late summer as this encourages flower production.

Leaf Maintenance - Their leaves do get ratty and sometimes get some black spots. I cut these off, or cut all of the leaves off in late summer, around when you fertilize them with a low nitrogen fertilizer. If leaves are profuse you can cut them off in winter also to give you a better effect when flowering.

Water - Do not over water your plants. If in summer they should get droopy, give them a good drink and keep them well mulched.

Pests - The Hellebore has relatively few problems. Aphids can be a problem in spring and early summer. You can spray for that but I find as I cut my plants back anyway they do no damage to next years flowers. Snails and slugs can be a nuisance in the early part of budding. Use any brand of pellet or liquid to deal with these.

Contact Details

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