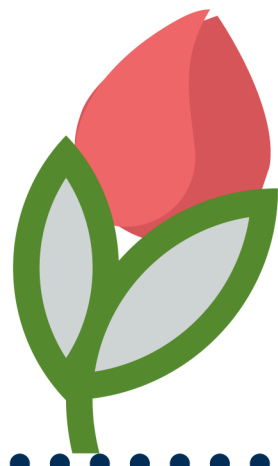


AgBud



A series of horticulture insights

Did you know?

Dahlias are perennials, but most of the time are grown as an annual because their tuberous roots can be harmed in temperatures 25°F and below.

Overview

- This herbaceous perennial plant was named after Swedish botanist Anders Dahl.
- Dahlias belong to the same family as daisies, sunflowers and chrysanthemums.
- Dahlias are unique in that they are octoploids, meaning they have eight sets of chromosomes, while most plants only have two.
- Most dahlias are fragrant free.

Production

The first double flowering dahlia was created in 1815.

There are over 40 species and several sub-species that are available in a variety of colors, shapes and sizes.

It is recommended to cut them early mornings, later in the evenings, or after watering.

Dahlia

Kingdom: Plantae

Family: Asteraceae

Genus: Dahlia

Species: 42 recognized species

History

- The Aztecs grew them as a food crop, but the practice stopped after the Spanish Conquest.
- They originated from Mexico, and were first recorded in 1615.
- Dahlias were once classified as a vegetable because their tubers are edible. The tubers are said to taste like a mixture of sweet potatoes and radishes.
- The petals were often used for skin irritations and insect bites.

Sources: plants.ces.ncsu.edu, justfunfacts.com, bhg.com/gardening, dahlia.org

Dahlia Anatomy

