

Plant Propagation Protocol for: *Allium campanulatum*

TAXONOMY

Family Names:

Family Scientific Name: Liliaceae

Family Common Name: Lily family

Scientific Names:

Genus: *Allium*

Species: *campanulatum*

Species Authority:

Variety:

Subspecies:

Cultivar:

Authority for variety/subspecies:

Common Synonym(s): *Allium austinae*; *Allium bidwelliae*

Common Name(s): Dusky onion; Sierra onion

Species Code: ALCA2

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Geographical Range: Grows along the western side of the United States, in Washington, Oregon, California, and Nevada.

Ecological distribution: Grows in low mountains, particularly in dry areas.

Climate and elevation range: Dry climate, low-mid elevation of 600-2600 meters.

Local habitat and abundance: Generally sandy soils on open or shaded slopes. Not a common plant; its conservation status is rated as sensitive.

Plant strategy type/successional stage: Flowers late May-August.

Plant characteristics: Perennial forb/herb (non woody but not a grass). Grows from 1-3 brown or gray bulbs. Plant includes a main, hollow stem with two long leaves, and at the top 10-50 flowers varying in colors: pink, purple, and less commonly white. Leaves persistent, withering from tip by anthesis. Foliage is onion-scented. Overall plant size small: 0-1 feet.

PROPAGATION DETAILS:

Ecotype:

Propagation Goal: Plants

Propagation Method: Bulb; seed

Product Type: Containers with light, airy soil.

Stock Type:

Time to Grow:

Propagule Collection: Good root growth in the plant beforehand will encourage growth and health of bulblets. Allow foliage to yellow before harvesting bulbs so that nutrients return to bulb.

Propagule Processing/Characteristics: Capsule 3-celled, 6-seeded, conspicuously crested with 6 flattened processes. Underground bulbs, as well as daughter bulblets at the base. Bulbs may be planted immediately after harvesting.

Pre-planting Propagule Treatments:

Growing Area Preparation/Annual Practices for Perennials: Plant bulbs at least 4-6 inches below soil surface for best root growth.

Establishment Phase:

Length of Establishment Phase: May take several years for plant to flower.

Active Growth Phase:

Length of Active Growth Phase:

Hardening Phase:

Length of Hardening Phase:

Harvesting, Storage, Shipping of Seedlings:

Length of Storage:

Guidelines for Outplanting/Performance on Typical Sites: Because foliage typically dies off before flowering, co-planting with another perennial that will fill the bare spaces at the base of their stems is recommended. There are many suitable companion plants similar to the dusky onion, particularly other forms of *Allium*, such as Blue Garlic (*Allium caeruleum*) or the Persian Onion (*Allium aflatunense*), and many others.

Other comments:

REFERENCES:

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3. Sage Bud, Plants by State
<http://www.sagebud.com/dusky-onion-allium-campanulatum/>
4. Flora of North America
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5. University of Texas at Austin, Native Plant Database
http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ALCA2
6. Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture

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7. Gardens by the Bay

<http://baygardens.tripod.com/bulbs.html>

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