

Jackdaws' Field Nursery

Dierama information

Last updated Jul-08

This information is intended to help you make a choice and successfully grow the varieties we offer. It can also be helpful in composing descriptive labels. Dieramas, known as *Angel's Fishing Rods* or *African Harebells* are South African plants with upright narrow leaves and tall wiry arching stems, which carry many pendulous flowers in mid-summer. They vary in colour, vigour, shape of flowers and timing of flowering.

In the garden they need deep, fertile, well-drained soil that doesn't dry out (they'll be lucky!) and partial shade is better than hot sun. On the nursery we have discovered that they prefer to be on the dry side overwinter, but if too dry the tops may die off entirely. They produce long brittle roots out of the bottom of the pot very quickly, which is simply a pain. Growing on Spinout treated material does mostly stop this tendency. If you move them you cause damage to the projecting roots and it seems best to settle them where they are going to overwinter by the end of August.

They do not necessarily flower in their second year (we supply them during their first) but some seem more precocious than others - watch for updates.

Species should all grow and flower true to type. More precocious than the hybrids

	Flowers	Height/vigour	Other features
Dierama argyreum	Ivory white	Smallish	Buds are sulphur yellow. The nearest to white in a species
Dierama dracomontanum	Deep pink, flared	Small	
Dierama erectum	Pink, outward facing	Small	Stiffly upright stems. Flowers late - into October.
Dierama galpinii	Purple	Medium	Late flowering
Dierama igneum	Red, flared	Medium	
Dierama mossii	Claret	Small	Early flowering
Dierama pauciflorum	Red pink	Medium	Early flowering, naturally grows in marshy places (but they are warm, marshy places)
Dierama pulcherrimum	Deep pink, flared	Vigorous	The darkest colour of any of the species we offer (so far)
Dierama reynoldsii	Deep wine red, white bracts	Small	Late flowering.
Dierama riparia	Pale purple	Medium	
Dierama trichorhizum	Pale mauve	Small	

Hybrids will be variable

Dierama - pale pink / pastel hybrids	Pale pink	Vigorous	Our own seed
Dierama ex-Blackbird	Violet-mauve	Vigorous	Commercial seed. The best are claret purple, but they are variable
Dierama ex-Snowballs	Should be mainly whites	Medium	Commercial seed, we have not grown before
Dierama ex-White	Some white	Medium	Our own seed, yielding some whites but some pale pinks also
Dierama pulch. Slieve Donard hybrid	Mix of colours and forms	Vigorous	Commercial seed, we have not grown before