

# Growing Louisiana Iris

*While originally coming from the swamps of the Southern states of the U.S.A., Louisiana Iris have proved themselves to be both hardy and rewarding perennials to grow in Perth.*

Louisiana Iris offer the greatest diversity of hybrid forms and colours of all the water loving Irises. They are evergreen plants that can be grown in well watered beds, but seem to perform best when kept wet to water-logged at all times. They are ideal for growing in ponds and create interest with their vertical foliage.

Louisiana Iris will tolerate some dappled shade, but will generally flower best in full sun positions.

Nutrient rich sandy soils with abundant organic matter such as Dawson's Garden World Organic Soil Improver give the best results.

If growing in pots, plant into pots of at least 20-30cm in diameter to allow growing and flowering. Fill pots with a mixture of well rotted compost or good garden loam and Soil Improver. Cover the top of the pot with a layer of pea gravel or stones. Pots can sit above the water level in the pond or be slightly immersed. Avoid using artificial fertilisers if growing in fish ponds.

When growing in a garden situation, a slow release fertilizer such as Apex 3-4 month can be applied 3 times per year to promote growth and flowering. A light mulch is beneficial in hot areas. However take care to avoid sawdust, pine bark, lawn clippings or using garden lime. Water garden grown plants well while spikes are developing and plants are flowering.

Louisiana Iris grow anywhere from 60cm to 1 metre high depending on variety and climate, flowering late spring and early summer. Propagate by dividing rhizomes after flowering.

A range of named Louisiana Iris hybrids, are seasonally available from Dawson's mainly during Spring.

Written By Sandy Sharpe, Dawson's Garden World Swanbourne.



## **FORRESTFIELD**

160 Hale Road  
Ph 94536533  
Fax 94539520

## **SWANBOURNE**

153 Railway Street  
Ph 93849652  
Fax 93832108

## **O'CONNOR**

388 South Street  
Ph 93147258  
Fax 93147264

## **JOONDALUP**

Cnr Joondalup Drv  
& Cord St  
Ph 93000733  
Fax 93001244

[www.dawsonsgardenworld.com.au](http://www.dawsonsgardenworld.com.au)