

NFC NEWS

Issue 541, Thursday, 15 March 2007



Snapdragons



Botanical name: Antirrhinum majus

Family: Plantaginaceae

Common Name: Snapdragons, Snaps

Country of Origin: Mediterranean

Available: November to September

Stem Length: 30 to 70 cm



Snaps are typical spike flowers with several flowers forming an elongated flowerhead. Flowers mature and open from the bottom up. Snapdragon flowers have a very distinctive shape as the petals have fused to form a kind of hood overhanging a large lip, that looks very much like a dragon's mouth. They are very colourful, coming in yellow, red, purple, white, as well as bi-colour combinations.

These were a very popular cut flower in the 1950's, where they were in the Top 5 cut flowers grown in the USA. While still solid sellers, snaps are not as sought after now, perhaps it's time for a revival.

Snaps are mostly field-grown in cooler areas near Melbourne, Sydney, in Tasmania and in SA and WA.

When Buying Look for:

- Stems with at least 1/3 of lower flowers open;
- Straight stems – stem tips curve up if laid flat;
- Avoid bunches with signs of flower drop or yellow leaves.

Flower Care

1. Keep cool whenever possible.
2. Split bunches and strip leaves from the lower half of each stem.
3. Wash stem ends thoroughly.
4. Recut at least 2 cm off each stem with sharp secateurs and place in water immediately.
5. Preservative is essential – this will help buds to colour up and open.

6. Replace water every day.

7. These flowers are very sensitive to ethylene, which causes flower drop. Keep them away from fruit, car exhausts and cigarette smoke.

8. Pinch the top bud off each stem, as this helps prevent stem bending.

Interesting Facts and Myths

Snapdragon's botanical name is Antirrhinum, from the Greek anti (like) and rhin (a nose), referring to the snout like shape of the flower.

A popular child's game is to pick individual snapdragons and squeeze the sides of the flower, making the dragon's jaws snap open and shut. In the Language of Flowers they can mean 'Gracious Lady'.

for more information on flowers log
onto www.marketfresh.com.au

THIS WEEK'S PRICES

NAME	STEMS PER BUNCH	PRICE RANGE
AGAPANTHUS	7	\$3.50
AGERATUM	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
ALLIUM - DRUMSTICK	5	\$6.00
ALSTROEMERIA	SML - 7, LGE - 10	\$2.50 TO \$6.00
AMARANTHUS	10	\$7.00 TO \$8.50
ANEMONE	10	\$3.00 TO \$4.00
ANTHURIUM	PER STEM	\$4.50
ASTERS		\$2.00
BANKSIA - BAXTERI	PER STEM	\$1.20 TO \$2.50
BANKSIA - COCCINEA	5	\$5.00
BANKSIA - PLAGEOCARPA	PER STEM	\$2.50
BANKSIA - SPECIOSA	PER STEM	\$1.20 TO \$2.00
BELLADONNA LILY	5	\$6.00 TO \$7.00
BOUVARDIA		\$4.00 TO \$7.00
BRUNIA	5	\$4.00 TO \$15.00
CALLA LILY	5	\$7.50 TO \$15.00
CARNATION - MICRO	10	\$2.00 TO \$3.50
CARNATION - FIELD		\$1.50 TO \$3.00
CARNATION - SPRAY		\$2.50 TO \$5.50
CARNATION - CHINESINI	10-15	\$2.50 TO \$3.50
CARNATION - FIELD		\$1.50 TO \$2.50
CARNATION - SIM		\$3.00 TO \$4.00
CELOSIA - COCKSCOMB	5	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
CELOSIA - PLUME	5	\$5.00
CHINCERINCHEE	5	\$3.50 TO \$4.50
CHRYSANTHEMUM - FIELD		\$2.50 TO \$3.50
CHRYSANTHEMUM - GLASSHOUSE	5-7	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
COSMOS		\$2.00
DAHLIA	5	\$3.00 TO \$3.50
DAHLIA - POM POM		\$2.00
DAISY		\$2.50 TO \$3.50
DELPHINIUM - GIANT	5	\$4.00 TO \$6.00
DELPHINIUM - BUTTERFLY	5	\$4.00 TO \$5.50
EASTER DAISY		\$2.50 TO \$3.50
EREMURUS	10	\$5.00 TO \$8.00
ERYNGIUM (SEA HOLLY)		\$4.50 TO \$5.50
EUCOMIS (PINEAPPLE LILY)	5	\$4.00 TO \$6.00
FLANNEL FLOWER	5	\$5.50 TO \$6.00
FREESIA	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
GERBERA	10	\$5.00 TO \$8.00
GERBERA - MINI	10	\$3.50 TO \$5.50
GLADIOLI	10	\$6.00 TO \$11.00
GLORIOSA LILY	3	\$5.00 TO \$15.00
GODETIA	10	\$2.50 TO \$3.50
GOLDEN ROD	10	\$2.50 TO \$3.00
GYPHOPHILA - STANDARD		\$3.00 TO \$5.00
GYPSY		\$3.00
HELICONIA	5	\$6.00
HELICONIA CLAW	PER STEM	\$4.00 TO \$7.50
HELICONIA SEXY	PER STEM	\$7.50 TO \$10.00
HIPPEASTRUM	3	
HYACINTH		\$5.00 TO \$7.00
HYDRANGEA	5	\$4.00 TO \$6.00
IRIS	10	\$4.50 TO \$6.50
IXODIA DAISY		\$3.50
KANGAROO PAW -BLACK		\$8.00
KANGAROO PAW - STANDARD	10	\$5.50
KUNZEA		\$4.50
LARKSPURS	5	\$3.00 TO \$4.00
LAVENDER		\$3.50
LEUCADENDRON	5	\$2.00 TO \$5.00
LEUCADENDRON - DISCOLOUR	5	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
LEUCADENDRON - GALAPINI	5	\$4.50
LEUCADENDRON - SILVAN RED	5	\$3.00 TO \$5.00
LEUCODENDRON - SILVER TREE		\$3.00
LEUCOSPERMUM - REFLEXUM	5	\$3.00 TO \$5.00
LEUCOSPERMUM - TANGO	5	\$6.00
LIATRIS	10	\$3.50 TO \$7.00
LILY - ASIATIC	5	\$3.00 TO \$5.50
LILY - LONGIFLORUM	5	\$5.00 TO \$10.00
LILY - ORIENTAL	4-5	\$5.00 TO \$10.00
LILY - LA	5	\$3.00 TO \$6.00
LIMONIUM - EMILE	10	\$3.50 TO \$4.50
LIMONIUM - MISTY	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
LIMONIUM - STATICE	10	\$2.00 TO \$2.50
LISIANTHUS	7-10	\$3.50 TO \$7.50
LOPHOSTEMON	5	\$4.50
LOTUS PODS		\$3.00

NAME	STEMS PER BUNCH	PRICE RANGE
MIXED NATIVE BUNCHES		\$4.50 TO \$7.00
NERINES	5	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
NIGELLA (LOVE IN THE MIST)		\$3.00
ORCHID - SINGAPORE	5	\$4.00 TO \$8.00
ORCHID - SLIPPER	PER BLOOM	\$6.50
ORCHID - TIGER	5	\$11.50
POKERS	5	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
PROTEA - KING	PER STEM	\$2.00 TO \$3.00
PROTEA - PINK ICE		\$2.50 TO \$6.50
ROSE - 30CM	10	\$3.00 TO \$5.00
ROSE - 40CM	10	\$4.00 TO \$6.00
ROSE - 50CM	10	\$5.00 TO \$7.00
ROSE - 60CM	10	\$6.00 TO \$9.00
ROSE - 70CM+	10	\$7.00 TO \$12.00
ROSE - MINI	10	\$4.50 TO \$6.50
SAFFLOWER (CARTHAMUS)	10	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
SCABIOSA	10	\$2.50
SEDUM	10	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
SNAPDRAGON	10	\$2.50 TO \$3.50
SOLIDASTER	10	\$3.00 TO \$3.50
STRAWBERRY FIELDS (GOMPHRENA)		\$2.50 TO \$4.00
STRELTIZIA - BIRD OF PARADISE	5	\$7.00 TO \$10.00
SUNFLOWERS	5	\$2.50 TO \$4.00
SWEET WILLIAM		\$2.00 TO \$3.00
TUBEROSE	5	\$3.50 TO \$6.00
TULIPS	10	\$4.50 TO \$7.00
VERONICA	10	\$3.00 TO \$4.00
WATER LILIES	5-7	\$5.00 TO \$8.00
FOLIAGE		
ACACIA APHYLLA		\$5.50 TO \$6.50
ASPIDISTRA		\$3.00
BANANA LEAF	20	\$20.00
BLACKBERRY FOLIAGE	10	\$4.50
BULLRUSHES	4	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
BUXUS	7	\$3.00 TO \$3.50
CAMELLIA		\$4.50 TO \$5.00
CHESTNUT FOLIAGE	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
CHRISTMAS BUSH		\$6.00 TO \$10.00
CLETHRA		\$5.50
COLOURED STICKS	6	\$25.00
CORDYLINE	10	\$4.50 TO \$5.00
CROTON	10	\$3.00 TO \$3.50
EMU BUSH		\$3.00 TO \$5.00
FAN PALM	10	\$5.00
FILICA		\$4.00
FLAX		\$3.50 TO \$7.50
GERBERA FOLIAGE		\$3.00
GINGER FOLIAGE		\$5.00
GUM - FLOWERING		\$3.00
GUM		\$2.50
HAPPY PLANT	10	\$6.00
HIMALAYAN HONEYSUCKLE		\$7.50
HOSTA LEAVES		\$4.00
HYDRANGEA FOLIAGE	5-6	\$4.00 TO \$6.00
HYPERICUM BERRIES	10	\$5.00 TO \$8.00
IVY		\$3.00 TO \$4.50
JOEY FERN	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
KOALA FERN	10	\$4.50
LAUREL		\$4.50
LEATHER FERN		\$4.00 TO \$5.00
MING FERN		\$4.50
MOLUCCA BALM (IRISH BELLS)	5	\$4.50 TO \$5.50
MONSTERIA LEAVES		\$6.50 TO \$9.00
NANDINA		\$3.50
PEPPERCORN		\$4.50 TO \$5.50
PHILODENDRON - XANADU	5-6	\$4.00 TO \$6.00
PIMELLA		\$3.50 TO \$4.00
RED WILLOW	5	\$5.00
SILVER BUSH	5	\$3.00 TO \$5.00
SILVER TREE		\$3.00
SILVER SUEDE		\$5.00 TO \$6.00
SMOKE BUSH	5	\$5.50 TO \$6.50
SNOWBERRY		\$7.50
SPEAR GRASS		\$2.00 TO \$3.00
TETRAGONA GUM NUTS	10	\$5.50 TO \$6.50
VIRBURNUM BERRIES	5	\$6.00 TO \$8.00
WINTER SWEET	5	\$7.50
WOODY PEAR	PER STEM	\$1.00