



Delphiniums & Larkspurs

Botanical name: Delphinium: *Delphinium grandiflorum*; Larkspur: *Consolida ambigua* and *C. orientalis*.

Family: Ranunculaceae

Common Name: Delphinium, larkspur

Country of Origin: Europe, USA

Available: All Year, particularly summer and autumn

Stem Length: 30 to 100 cm (delphinium only).

One of the very few large cut flowers that is blue – a very rare combination. Delphiniums are larger and more showy than larkspurs, and have longer stems. Delphiniums come in blue, white and purple, but there are now new varieties, called F2, which are pink, salmon and yellow in colour. Larkspurs are more commonly found in shades of pink. Both have large flower spikes with a number of flowers opening from the bottom up.

Delphiniums have poisonous sap, so take care when handling and wear gloves.

Delphinium are grown inside glasshouses; larkspur can be grown in the field in spring and summer. In Australia they are grown close to the capital cities, particularly in Victoria (Dandenong Ranges and Mornington Peninsula) due to its relatively cool climate with low humidity.

Types: Delphinium, larkspur.

When Buying Look for:

- About one third of the lower flowers should be open.
- Strong stems that support the many flowers.
- Avoid spikes with flowers that drop off – this is a sign of ethylene damage.

Flower Care

1. Keep cool! Never place in full sun.
2. Unpack and get into water as soon as possible as these flowers dry out quickly.
3. Strip leaves from the bottom half of each stem.
4. Recut at least 2cm off each stem and place in cold water.
5. Use a preservative as this will keep flowers looking fresh.
6. Replace vase water with fresh preservative every day.
7. Both delphinium and larkspur are very sensitive to ethylene. Keep them away from fruit, car exhausts and cigarette smoke.

Interesting Facts and Myths

The name Delphinium comes from the Greek and refers to the buds, which are 'dolphin-shaped'.

All parts of the plant contain an alkaloid called delphinidin which is very toxic and causes vomiting when eaten, and even death. In small amounts, extracts of the plant have been used in herbal medicine, but this is not advised. Grieve's herbal reports that the seeds can be used against parasites, especially lice and nits. A tincture was used against asthma and dropsy. The juice of the flowers, mixed with alum was used as a blue ink.

In the Language of Flowers, delphinium means 'fun', while larkspur means 'an open heart', or 'lightness'.

THIS WEEK'S PRICES

NAME	STEMS PER BUNCH	PRICE RANGE
AGERATUM	10	\$3.00 TO \$3.50
ALLIUM - MINI	5	\$3.50
ALLIUM - DRUMSTICK	PER STEM	\$5.00
ALSTROEMERIA	SML - 7, LGE - 10	\$3.00 TO \$6.00
AMARANTHUS	10	\$6.00 TO \$8.50
ANEMONE	10	\$4.00
ANTHURIUM	PER STEM	\$1.50 TO \$3.50
ARABS EYES	5	\$2.00 TO \$3.50
ARUM LILIES	5	\$5.00 TO \$6.50
ASTERS		\$2.00 TO \$4.00
AZALEA	5	\$4.00
BANKSIA - BAXTERI	PER STEM	\$1.20 TO \$2.50
BANKSIA - COCCINEA	5	\$5.00
BANKSIA - HOOKERIANA	PER STEM	\$1.60
BANKSIA - MENZIESII	PER STEM	\$1.40 TO \$1.80
BANKSIA - SPECIOSA	PER STEM	\$1.20 TO \$2.00
BILLY BUTTONS	20	\$3.00 TO \$4.00
BLUEBELLS		\$1.50 TO \$2.00
BLUSHING BRIDE	5	\$3.00 TO \$6.00
BORONIA - BROWN	10	\$5.00 TO \$5.50
BORONIA - PINK	10	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
BORONIA - BURGUNDY	10	\$4.50 TO \$6.00
CALENDULA	10	\$2.00
CALLA LILY	10	\$6.00 TO \$7.00
CAMPANULA (CANTERBURY BELLS)	10	\$3.00 TO \$6.00
CARNATION HEADS	BOX	\$10.00 TO \$15.00
CARNATION - MICRO	10	\$2.00 TO \$3.50
CARNATION - FIELD		\$1.50 TO \$3.00
CARNATION - SPRAY		\$3.50 TO \$4.00
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	\$4.00 TO \$7.00
CELOSIA - PLUME	5	\$5.00
CHINCERINCHEE	5	\$2.50 TO \$3.50
CHRYSANTHEMUM - DISBUD	5	\$6.50 TO \$8.50
CHRYSANTHEMUM - FIELD		\$2.50 TO \$4.50
CHRYSANTHEMUM - GLASSHOUSE	5-7	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
CLIVEA	5	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
CORNFLOWER	7	\$3.50 TO \$4.00
DAFFODILS	10	\$1.10 TO \$2.00
DAISY - SHASTA		\$2.00 TO \$3.00
DELPHINIUM - GIANT	5	\$6.00 TO \$9.00
DELPHINIUM - BUTTERFLY	5	\$4.00 TO \$5.50
EASTER DAISY		\$2.50 TO \$3.50
ERICA - YELLOW & PINK	10	\$4.50 TO \$6.00
ERICA - GREEN	5	\$5.00 TO \$5.50
ERIOSTEMON - WHITE	5-7	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
ERIOSTEMON - PINK	5-7	\$5.50
ERLICHEER		\$1.50 TO \$2.00
ERYNGIUM (SEA HOLLY)		\$7.50 TO \$8.50
EUPHORBIA	10	\$5.00 TO \$8.00
FLANNEL FLOWER	5	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
FRESIA	10	\$2.00 TO \$4.50
GELEZNOWIA (YELLOW BELLS)	10	\$4.50 TO \$5.00
GERBERA	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
GERBERA - MINI	10	\$2.00 TO \$3.00
GLADIOLI	10	\$8.00 TO \$12.00
GOLDEN ROD (SOLIDAGO)	10	\$2.50 TO \$4.00
GYMEA LILIES	PER STEM	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
GYPSOPHILA - STANDARD		\$3.00 TO \$6.00
GYPSY		\$3.00 TO \$4.00
HELLEBORUS	5	\$4.50 TO \$5.50
HELICONIA	5	\$6.00
HELICONIA CLAW	PER STEM	\$4.00 TO \$7.50
HELICONIA SEXY	PER STEM	\$7.50 TO \$10.00
HIPPEASTRUM	5	\$6.50
HYACINTH		\$4.50 TO \$5.50
IRIS	10	\$4.50 TO \$6.50
IRIS - BEARDED	5	\$3.50
ISOPOGON	10	\$4.00
JONQUILS	10	\$1.30 TO \$1.50
KALE	PER STEM	\$4.50 TO \$5.00
KANGAROO PAW - STANDARD	10	\$6.00 TO \$7.00
KANGAROO PAW - BLACK		\$8.00 TO \$9.00
LAVENDER		\$3.00
LEUCADENDRON	5	\$2.00 TO \$5.00
LEUCADENDRON - DISCOLOUR	5	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
LEUCADENDRON - GALAPINI	5	\$4.50
LEUCADENDRON - SAFARI SUNSET	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
LEUCADENDRON - SILVAN RED	5	\$3.00 TO \$5.00
LEUCODENDRON - SILVER TREE		\$3.00

NAME	STEMS PER BUNCH	PRICE RANGE
LEUCOSPERMUM - REFLEXUM	5	\$3.00 TO \$5.00
LIATRIS	10	\$7.50 TO \$9.50
LILAC	10	\$6.00 TO \$7.50
LILY OF THE VALLEY	10	\$5.00
LILY - ASIATIC	5	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
LILY - LONGIFLORUM	5	\$5.00 TO \$10.00
LILY - ORIENTAL	5	\$6.00 TO \$13.00
LILY - LA	5	\$5.50 TO \$6.50
LIMONIUM - EMILE	10	\$3.50 TO \$4.50
LIMONIUM - MISTY	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
LIMONIUM - STATICE	10	\$2.00 TO \$3.50
LISSANTHUS	7-10	\$6.00 TO \$8.00
LOTUS PODS		\$3.00
ORCHID - CYMBIDIUM	PER STEM	\$13.00 TO \$17.00
ORCHID - SINGAPORE	5	\$4.00 TO \$8.00
ORCHID - TIGER	5	\$11.50
ORCHID - TIGER (DANCING LADIES)	10	\$25.00
PEONY ROSE	5	\$6.00 TO \$9.00
POKERS	5	\$4.50 TO \$6.00
POPPIES	10	\$2.50 TO \$3.00
PROTEA - KING	PER STEM	\$1.00 TO \$2.00
PROTEA - PINK ICE		\$3.00 TO \$4.00
QUEEN ANNE'S LACE		\$6.50
RANUNCULUS		\$3.50
RICEFLOWER	10	\$4.50 TO \$5.00
ROSE - 30CM	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
ROSE - 40CM	10	\$4.00 TO \$8.00
ROSE - 50CM	10	\$5.00 TO \$9.00
ROSE - 60CM	10	\$9.00 TO \$10.00
ROSE - 70CM+	10	\$10.00 TO \$11.00
ROSE - MINI	10	\$4.50 TO \$6.00
SEDUM	10	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
SNAPDRAGON	10	\$2.50 TO \$5.00
SOLIDASTER	10	\$3.00 TO \$3.50
STIRLINGIA (BUD)		\$5.00
STOCK		\$2.00 TO \$3.00
STRELITZIA - BIRD OF PARADISE	5	\$10.00 TO \$12.50
SUNFLOWER	5	\$4.00 TO \$9.00
SWEETPEA	10	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
SWEET WILLIAM		\$2.00 TO \$3.00
TULIPS	10	\$7.50 TO \$9.00
WALLFLOWERS		\$2.50 TO \$4.00
WARATAH - RED	PER STEM	\$2.50 TO \$3.00
WATER LILIES	5	\$7.50
WATSONIA	10	\$3.00
WAX FLOWER - GERALDTON (OPEN)	10	\$2.50 TO \$3.50
FOLIAGE		
ANDROMEDA (FLOWERING)		\$4.50 TO \$6.00
AZALEA (MOLLIS)		\$4.50 TO \$6.50
BAMBOO	PER STEM	\$2.00 TO \$20.00
BERZELIA LANUGINOSA (FLOWERING)	5	\$4.50 TO \$6.00
BROOME	4	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
CORDYLINE	10	\$4.50 TO \$5.00
FAN PALM	10	\$5.00
FIGS	5	\$7.00 TO \$8.00
GARRYA	3	\$5.00 TO \$7.00
GERBERA FOLIAGE		\$3.00
GINGER FOLIAGE		\$5.00
GOLDEN ASH BUDS		\$5.00 TO \$6.00
GREVILLIA (FLOWERING - MOONLIGHT)		\$4.00 TO \$5.00
GUM		\$2.50
HYPERICUM BERRIES	10	\$5.00 TO \$8.00
HYPOCALYMA (MYRTLE - GOLDEN VEIL)	30CM (200GM)	\$5.50
JAPONICA (FLOWERING QUINCE)	5	\$5.00
JOEY FERN	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
KANGAROO TAILS	PER STEM	\$3.00
LAUREL		\$3.50 TO \$4.00
LEATHER FERN		\$4.00 TO \$5.00
LEPTOSPERNUM (FLOWERING)	10	\$5.00
MAGNOLIA FOLIAGE (FLOWERING/BUDDING)	5	\$6.50 TO \$7.50
MOLUCCA BALM (IRISH BELLS)	5	\$4.50 TO \$5.50
MONSTERIA LEAVES		\$6.50 TO \$9.00
PHILODENDRON - XANADU	5-6	\$3.00 TO \$3.50
POLYGALA (FLOWERING)	5	\$3.00 TO \$4.00
PRUNUS (FLOWERING)	5	\$6.00 TO \$7.50
RHODODENDRON BUDS	5	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
RHODODENDRON FLOWERING	5	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
SILVER SUEDE		\$5.00 TO \$6.00
SNOTTY GRASS	5	\$3.00 TO \$5.00
SPEAR GRASS		\$2.00 TO \$3.00
THRYPTOMENE		\$2.50
VIBURNUM FOLIAGE		\$3.00 TO \$4.00

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Prices quoted are per bunch and exclude GST. Bulk orders may receive lower prices depending on availability