

**New Gippsland
Seeds & Bulbs**



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ELDERBERRY CULTURAL NOTES

(Sambucus niger) European Elderberry

Elderberries have been grown in Australia since the early days of settlement. They produce a flat flower head which then produces a bunch of tart black fruit.

METHOD The hardy plants are delivered bare rooted. They should be planted so the roots are at least 3 to 5 cm below soil level. Space multiple plants 2 to 3 metres apart.

SITE They grow well in full sun but are satisfactory in light shade, particularly in hotter areas.

SOIL Ensure the soil is well drained, with a good layer of mulch and compost to retain moisture and keep the root zone cool. Plants are hardy, but respond well to annual fertilising in Spring.

TIME of PLANTING Plants should be placed in position while dormant over winter.

HARVEST By late summer the bunches of black berries are ready for harvest. The fruit is used in wines, jams, jellies and pies. Raw berries are extremely tart.

PEST & DISEASES. Few if any problems affect this hardy plant.

MAINTENANCE Plants are sometimes grown as a hedge, so they tolerate trimming. Old wood can be removed to maintain young growth from the base of the plant.