

How to Propagate Antirrhinum molle



Snappy Dragons: How to Propagate Antirrhinum Molle from Seed and Cuttings

Antirrhinum molle, commonly known as the Snappy Dragon or Dwarf Snapdragon, is a charming little plant with vibrant blooms that resemble tiny dragons' faces. This cheerful wildflower is a delightful addition to any garden, and the good news is, it's incredibly easy to propagate! Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just starting out, propagating your own Snappy Dragons is a rewarding experience.

From Seed to Seedling:

Starting Snappy Dragons from seed is a fun and economical way to grow these delightful flowers. Here's how:

- 1. Choose the right time:** The best time to start Antirrhinum molle seeds is in early spring, about 6-8 weeks before your last frost date.
- 2. Prepare your soil:** Use a seed-starting mix or a well-draining soil. Fill seed trays or small pots with the

mix and dampen it thoroughly.

3. **Sow the seeds:** Sprinkle the tiny *Antirrhinum molle* seeds on top of the soil. Don't bury them, as light is needed for germination. Lightly mist the soil to keep it moist.
4. **Provide warmth and light:** Cover the seed trays with a clear plastic dome or wrap to create a humid environment. Place them in a warm spot, ideally between 65-75°F (18-24°C). Ensure adequate light, either from a sunny windowsill or a grow light.
5. **Germination:** *Antirrhinum molle* seeds typically germinate in 10-14 days. Once the seedlings have a few true leaves, you can transplant them into individual pots to grow on.

Propagating with Cuttings:

Another successful method for propagating Snappy Dragons is using cuttings. This technique allows you to quickly create new plants from existing ones:

1. **Choose healthy cuttings:** Select healthy, non-flowering stems from your Snappy Dragon plants. The best cuttings are about 4 inches long and taken from new growth.
2. **Prepare the cuttings:** Remove the leaves from the bottom inch of the cutting. Dip this end in rooting hormone to encourage root growth.
3. **Plant the cuttings:** Use a pot filled with a well-draining rooting mix. Gently make a hole in the soil and insert the cutting. Firm the soil around it to provide support.
4. **Keep them moist:** Cover the cuttings with a plastic dome or wrap to maintain humidity. Keep the soil consistently moist but not soggy.
5. **Patience is key:** Cuttings typically take around 4-6 weeks to root. Be patient and avoid moving the pots during this critical period.

Post-Propagation Care:

Once your Snappy Dragon seedlings or cuttings have established roots, you can transfer them to larger containers or directly into your garden. They thrive in full sun to partial shade and prefer well-drained soil. Regularly water them throughout the growing season, ensuring the soil doesn't dry out completely. Deadheading (removing faded blooms) will encourage further flowering.

Enjoy the Colorful Show:

Antirrhinum molle is a beautiful addition to any garden, adding a burst of color and whimsical charm. With the right care and propagation techniques, you can easily grow your own Snappy Dragons and enjoy their cheerful blooms for years to come. So, grab some seeds or cuttings and start your own dragon-filled garden adventure!