

# Growing saffron crocus

*Crocus sativus*

## QUICK FACTS

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USDA ZONES

**6–9**

SUNLIGHT

**Full Sun**

BLOOM

**Fall**

## AT A GLANCE

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Saffron crocus is more accessible than its reputation suggests. Plant corms in late summer, harvest the three red stigmas from each fall-blooming flower, dry them promptly, and store in an airtight container. The labor is in the harvest, not the growing.

## PLANTING CHECKLIST

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- Match site to sun requirements above before buying
- Test soil drainage — dig a 12" hole, fill with water, time it (should drain in 1–2 hrs)
- Dig hole 2x wider than rootball, same depth
- Backfill with native soil — do NOT amend the planting hole
- Water deeply at planting and weekly for first 3 weeks
- Mulch 2" deep, keep mulch 2" away from trunk/stems

## FULL GUIDE WITH SOURCES

<https://outdoorplantcare.com/vegetables/growing-saffron-crocus/>

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