



# HUNNIFORD GARDENS

Inspiring Northern Gardeners Since 1985

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## **Big Duck® Orange Marigold** *Tagetes erecta 'Big Duck Orange'*

Height: 12 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 12 inches

Sunlight: ☉

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Group/Class: Big Duck Series

### **Description:**

Vigorous and well branched, this variety features large, orange blooms that rise above bushy dark green foliage; an easy to grow and low maintenance selection, ideal for containers, borders and landscapes; heat tolerant with excellent disease resistance

### **Ornamental Features**

Big Duck Orange Marigold features bold orange ball-shaped flowers at the ends of the stems from late spring to mid fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its fragrant ferny leaves remain dark green in colour throughout the season.

### **Landscape Attributes**

Big Duck Orange Marigold is an herbaceous annual with a mounded form. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant. Trim off the flower heads after they fade and die to encourage more blooms late into the season. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Big Duck Orange Marigold is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



*Big Duck Orange Marigold flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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## **Planting & Growing**

Big Duck Orange Marigold will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 12 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. This fast-growing annual will normally live for one full growing season, needing replacement the following year.

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to dry locations, and dislikes excessive moisture. This plant does not require much in the way of fertilizing once established. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Big Duck Orange Marigold is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers against which the thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.