



# Johnson Brothers Greenhouses

[www.jbgreenhouses.com](http://www.jbgreenhouses.com)

**91444 Coburg Road, Eugene**

**541-484-1649**

---

## **How to Enjoy Chrysanthemums Year After Year!**

Although best known as flowering potted plants to use as colorful accents in the fall, many chrysanthemums make sturdy garden perennials. Where winters are less severe, most potted garden mums will survive winter provided they have ample opportunity to develop roots in the ground before frost arrives. Chrysanthemums prefer sunny locations with well drained soil and adequate moisture. Timely fertilizing insures strong stems and profuse blooms.

### **Pinching**

Chrysanthemums can be quite tall, if left unchecked. Most consumers enjoy the short bushy plants they find in most garden centers. In order to help mums develop more bud-bearing stems and stay compact, pinch back the growing tips twice; once in late spring and again in early July. Be careful not to pinch mums any later, or they will not have a chance to develop flower buds in time.

### **Fertilizing**

Begin fertilizing mums in mid spring after new green stems appear and the last frost has passed. Mums need a constant supply of nutrients to make strong, steady growth. Sprinkle plant food with timed-release fertilizer (such as Osmocote or Apex) into the soil around the plants and then mulch over the area. In midsummer, after you have pinched back your plants for the last time, give them a "booster feeding". Pull back the mulch, sprinkle fertilizer onto the soil around the plants and replace the mulch. This feeding will provide the plants with ample nutrients to support heavy flowering and will help insure deep rooting which in turn enhances winter hardiness and resistance to drought.