

ECHO Asia Seed Fact Sheet

Scientific name – *Zinnia elegans*

English common name – Zinnia

Asian common names (from <http://www.ars-grin.gov/cgi-bin/npgs/html/taxon.pl?42258>)

- Japanese: hyaku-nichi-so
- Korean: baegilhong
- Thai: ดอกบานชื่น (dok ban chu)

Variety –

- **Thung Khang Tong**: a local Thai variety with a mix of purple and white flowers.

General description and special characteristics - Zinnia is an upright, bushy flower with a yellow and black inner flower and petals of varying color.

Crop uses (companion planting) – Zinnias can be planted around and in garden beds to attract beneficial insects.

Other uses – Zinnias are often grown for sale as cut flowers.

Seasons of production – Zinnia is a warm-weather annual.

Length of production and harvest period – Zinnias grow best in a hot dry season, and will flower more often with shortening days.

Pollination – Insect pollinated.

Plant spacing – Zinnias are generally planted 6 in. (15 cm) apart for cut flower production. For companion planting they can be scattered around the edge of plots.

Production methods – Zinnia is generally propagated by seed. Pinch off side branches to produce larger flowers, and remove dead flowers to prolong flowering period.

Known environmental conditions for production – Zinnia prefers full sun, and grows best with a long, dry hot season.

Known soil requirements – Zinnia grows well in a well-drained loamy soil, rich in organic matter, with a pH 5.5-7.5.

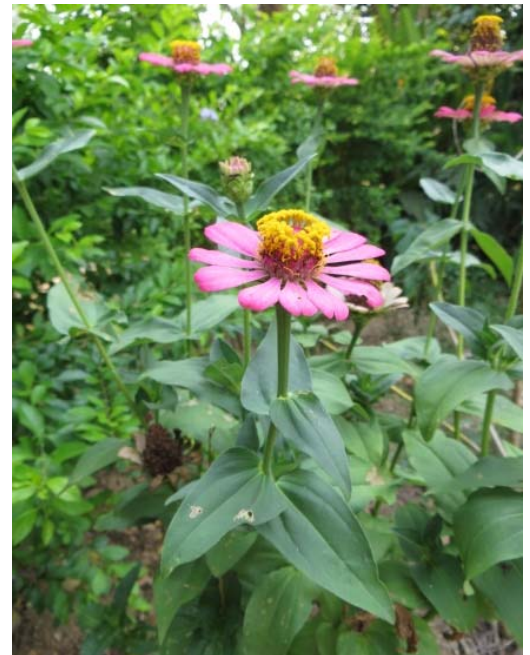
Known pests – Bud worms and grasshoppers can damage flowers, while Japanese beetles and thrips damage foliage. Zinnia is susceptible to powdery mildew and alternaria leaf spot. Various bacterial and viral diseases may also occur. Infected plants should be removed from plot.

Seed saving – Cut dry flower heads and remove seeds from the center, then spread out and dry before storage.

References –

Christman, S. (2004). Floridata: *Zinnia elegans*. *Floridata*. Retrieved April 2, 2013, from http://www.floridata.com/ref/z/zinn_ele.cfm

Schoellhorn, R., E. Emino, and E. Alvarez. Warm Climate Production for Specialty Cut Flowers: Zinnia. Commercial Floriculture Update, University of Florida IFAS. Retrieved from http://hort.ufl.edu/floriculture/pdfs/crop_production/zinnia_ENHFL05-017.pdf



Zinnia elegans. (n.d.). *Missouri Botanical Garden*. Retrieved April 2, 2013, from <http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/gardens-gardening/your-garden/plant-finder/plant-details/kc/a618/zinnia-elegans.aspx>

Zinnia elegans - Zinnia. (n.d.). *Flowers of India*. Retrieved April 2, 2013, from <http://www.flowersofindia.net/catalog/slides/Zinnia.html>