

# Crocus scardicus

Flowering Time	Spring
Distribution	Macedonia; E Albania
Native Climate	Cold winter with snow cover, short moist summer
Wild Habitat	Short alpine turf, flowering near melting snow
Distinctive Features	Flower yellow/orange in upper two thirds, purple in lower third and tube. Corm tunic finely netted fibres. Leaf with no white stripe on upper surface
Closest Relatives	Crocus pelistericus
Cultivation Requirements	Cold winter preferred, cool moist conditions in summer.
Availability	Sometimes available from specialist bulb suppliers

As with *Crocus pelistericus* this species occupies a high, alpine habitat where summer is short, damp and cool, while winter may involve as much as six months snow cover. The cultivation of these species is therefore a challenge in areas which suit many other *Crocus* species which enjoy a warm dry summer rest. *Crocus scardicus* is grown outside successfully in some parts of Scotland where the summer is cooler and shorter than the southern UK.



Crocus scardicus

Photos: Ian Young's Bulb Log



*Crocus scardicus*



*C. pelistericus*

A hybrid with *Crocus pelistericus* has been produced in cultivation at Gothenburg Botanic Garden:



*Crocus x goteburgensis*