

## Crocus caspius

Flowering Time	Autumn
Distribution	Iran (Mountain foothills around Caspian sea)
Native Climate	Cold, moist winters. Drier but not arid in summer
Wild Habitat	Scrub and woodland
Distinctive Features	White flower often stippled lilac on outer petals. Membranous corm tunic splits at base
Closest Relatives	No close relatives – a distinct species
Cultivation Requirements	Avoid excessive dryness in summer.
Availability	Occasionally in society and specialist seed lists

Quite distinct amongst the autumn flowering crocuses and one of the most beautiful. Not difficult in cultivation in the UK and regularly sets seed. Curiously the capsules ripen at or just below ground level, in most other species the stem elongates to lift the capsule well above ground.



