

# Crocus pulchellus

Flowering Time	Autumn
Distribution	Macedonia; Serbia; S Bulgaria; N Greece; Turkey
Native Climate	Mediterranean
Wild Habitat	Damp turf and in thin woodland or scrub
Distinctive Features	Flowers pale to mid lilac with darker veins. Anthers white, <a href="#">filaments hairy</a> . Corm tunic coriaceous splitting into rings at the base
Closest Relatives	<a href="#">Crocus speciosus</a>
Cultivation Requirements	Tolerant of some summer moisture. Grown outside without protection in UK gardens given well drained soil
Availability	Widely available from specialist suppliers and in commerce*

An easy and attractive autumn flowering species, with a stronger tube than the related *Crocus speciosus*. This makes it a better garden plant, being less prone to flop over. There is a very large flowered form, possibly of hybrid origin, called 'Zephyr'. This has greyish lilac flowers.

\*In UK garden centres some (or more) of the stock offered (of Dutch origin) is unfortunately mixed or hybridised with *Crocus speciosus*. Only a proportion of the corms will produce flowers of the appearance below, the rest appear to be *Crocus speciosus*.



A form raised from wild collected seed



A clone available from UK specialist bulb suppliers.



White form. Vigorous and increases in the garden here.



Corms showing papery tunic with some evidence of basal rings.