

Arkansas Diamonds Plants:

‘Profusion[®] Red and Yellow Bicolor’ Zinnia

(Zinnia × hybrida ‘Red Yellow Bicolor’)

Anthony Bowden
Assistant Professor -
Ornamentals Specialist

Zoë M. Guidry
Program Associate -
Ornamental Horticulture

Quick Facts:

Recommended Use: Mass planting, seasonal color beds, containers

Exposure: Full Sun

Mature Size: 12-18 inches tall, 18-24 inches wide

Growth Habit: Compact, mounding, freely branching

Season of interest: Late Spring through frost

Maintenance Level: Low

Water Needs: Moderate; prefers even moisture with good drainage

Arkansas Performance

Highlights: Strong heat tolerance, improved disease resistance, continuous flowering, compact uniform habit

Summary

‘Profusion[®] Red and Yellow Bicolor’ zinnia is valued for its bright red petals highlighted with golden-yellow centers, creating a vivid two-tone display throughout the growing season. The compact, mounding habit and continuous

*(Zinnia × hybrida
‘Red Yellow Bicolor’)*



flowering make this selection effective for uniform landscape beds and high-visibility plantings.

The Profusion[®] series is known for combining the heat tolerance of *Zinnia angustifolia* with the larger flower size and color range of *Zinnia elegans*, resulting in improved disease resistance and dependable summer performance. In Arkansas landscapes, when planted in full sun, this selection maintains bloom production during extended periods of heat and humidity.

Its uniform growth habit allows for consistent coverage in mass plantings, providing season-long color with minimal intervention.

Arkansas Is Our Campus

Visit our website at:
<https://www.uaex.uada.edu>

Arkansas Performance Notes:

‘Profusion® Red and Yellow Bicolor’ performs reliably across Arkansas in full sun landscapes. When provided with a well-drained soil and moderate fertility, plants tolerate prolonged 90° F summer temperatures and continue flowering through the hottest months.

In northern Arkansas (Zone 7), this species functions as a warm-season annual and should be planted after the danger of frost has passed. Across central and southern Arkansas, consistent bloom production can be maintained through late summer and into fall with proper spacing and airflow.

The compact habit makes this selection especially useful in municipal plantings, commercial landscapes and residential beds requiring height and color.

Cultural Requirements:

- Plant in full sun for maximum flowering and compact growth.
- Requires well-drained soil; avoid heavy or poorly drained sites.
- Space 12-16 inches apart to promote airflow and to reduce disease pressure.

Growth and Landscape Use:

- Best suited for mass plantings, borders, edging and containers.

- Excellent for large blocks of seasonal color requiring uniform height.
- Performs well in residential and commercial landscapes with moderate irrigation.

The mounding habit allows plants to fill in quickly while maintaining a tidy appearance throughout the season.

Care and Maintenance:

- Incorporate a balanced slow-release fertilizer at planting.
- Deadheading is not required but may improve overall appearance.
- Avoid excessive nitrogen fertilization, which may reduce flowering.

The Profusion® series demonstrates improved resistance to common zinnia diseases. Powdery mildew, however, may develop during periods of high humidity and limited airflow. Occasional leaf spot diseases can occur in prolonged wet conditions. Proper spacing, full sun exposure and good drainage will help maintain plant health. Aphids and spider mites may occasionally be present but are typically manageable with sound cultural practices.

