

PLANTS TO READ ABOUT

Society garlic: fine leaves, savoury scent and delicate flowers

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AI-created scene based on the original shop photo. Size reference: young plant in a 12 cm pot, matching the original shop photograph. Decoration is not included; this is not a product photograph to scale.

Grow with knowledge.

A collection for observation and reference. Detailed explanations to help you make care decisions suited to your plant and its position.

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PLANT PORTRAIT

Tulbaghia violacea

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Botanical identification	Tulbaghia violacea
Family	Amaryllidaceae
Origin	South Africa
Delivery size	12 cm pot · delivery height not stated
Growth and distinctive feature	Clump-forming perennial with narrow flat leaves and raised lilac flower umbels

Care at a glance

Observe, check and adapt care to the position and season. This table provides guidance for everyday practice.

Topic	What to do	Why it helps
Light	Sunny to bright partial shade.	Sufficient light supports strong leaves and possible flowers.
Water	Water regularly according to need during growth.	Young pots dry faster than established clumps.
Soil	Loose and freely draining; do not plant the clump too deep.	Permanently wet roots become weakened.
Feed	Feed moderately as needed during active growth.	Consider nutrients already present in the compost.
Harvest	Wash healthy leaves or flowers and use sparingly.	Leave young plants enough green leaf area.
Care	Remove dry outer leaves and watch for slugs and snails.	A clean clump is easier to assess.
Winter	Bright and frost-free, from around 10 °C for this offer.	Regional outdoor reports do not guarantee results for small pots.
Rest period	Water less and do not feed without growth.	Lower consumption calls for adjusted supplies.

Knowledge that grows

A grass-like appearance, botanically a different family

Tulbaghia violacea belongs to the amaryllis family. Its narrow flat leaves grow as a loose clump and look grass-like, making the German name Knobi-Gras memorable. Cutting releases a garlic-like smell. During the season, delicate lilac flowers can open above them in small umbels. The plant is not a true grass and is not identical to garlic chives, *Allium tuberosum*. This distinction matters for its annual rhythm, as the South African Tulbaghia is grown here as a container plant requiring frost-free overwintering.

Begin with a young leafy clump

The offer is an organically grown plant in a 12 cm pot. The stated 30 to 40 cm refers to later growth; delivery height is not specified. The original photograph shows a young green leafy clump without open flowers, so the scene does not add flowers as a delivery feature. With good care, the clump can become denser. Its own herb pot or a position in a suitable summer arrangement shows the fine leaves well. Companion plants should have similar requirements for light, water and winter position.

Sun and freely draining soil for healthy roots

A sunny to bright partially shaded position is suitable during the summer months. After sheltered cultivation, gradually accustom it to direct sunshine. The plant tolerates warmth but needs an appropriate water supply for good growth. Use loose, freely draining compost and keep drainage holes open. Do not plant the clump unnecessarily deep. Water must drain from a container; a closed bowl without drainage makes long-term cultivation harder. Once roots fill the delivery pot well, the plant can move into an appropriately larger container.

Match water and nutrition to growth

Water thoroughly as needed and let the surface dry a little between waterings. Established plants tolerate drier periods better than a newly delivered plant in a small pot. Drought tolerance does not mean that even growth is possible without water. Feed moderately as needed during strong growth. Yellow outer leaves can reflect ageing but may also indicate unsuitable moisture. Check the root ball before adding fertiliser. More watering does not reliably improve wilted leaves in already wet compost.

Harvest without exhausting the young clump

Leaves and flowers are used as culinary seasoning. Harvest clean healthy parts, wash them and use sparingly at first, for example finely sliced over a savoury dish. A garlic aroma does not mean that no smell can be noticeable after eating. No medicinal effects are promised here. Take only some leaves from young plants and retain enough green area for further growth. Remove old dry leaves. Dense older clumps can be divided at a suitable opportunity, with each section needing healthy roots and shoots.

A bright place through the cold season

Tulbaghia's frost tolerance is described differently by region. For this small herb offer, the shop recommendation of bright overwintering at a minimum of around 10 °C is a cautious, understandable approach. Bring it indoors before frost, water less with lower consumption and do not keep it permanently wet. Pause feeding when growth stops. Before bringing it indoors, also check for slugs, snails and damaged leaves. In spring, gradually accustom it to stronger sunshine and outdoor air. New flowers are an attractive extra, while a healthy leafy clump remains the foundation of cultivation.

Pictures and details

Images and descriptions from this portrait. Decorative items are not included in the offer.



Original shop photograph: society garlic. 12 cm pot · delivery height not stated. Natural variations are possible.



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Good to know

Is society garlic the same as garlic chives?

No. *Tulbaghia violacea* and *Allium tuberosum* are different plants with different growing requirements.

Does the plant arrive with lilac flowers?

This is not promised. The selected original photograph shows a young leafy clump without open flowers.

Can I use the leaves like chives?

Yes, washed as culinary seasoning in small quantities. Do not remove all the leaves of young plants at once.

How can I keep it for several years?

Provide suitable summer care and bring it into bright shelter before frost. A winter position from around 10 °C is recommended for this shop offer.

The matching offer

[Plant in the shop](#)

The linked shop is in German. Product details, availability and delivery information are provided in that shop.

[Read the complete portrait in English](#)



English portrait



Shop offer (in German)