



**Thompson & Morgan**  
Experts in the Garden Since 1855

# Press Release

## Breeding Breakthrough – First 'Supasweet™' Onions Available to UK Gardeners

Thompson & Morgan is delighted to be launching a breeding breakthrough with **New & Exclusive 2009 Onion Supasweet™ (Dulcinea) F1 Hybrid** (*Allium cepa Supasweet™ (Dulcinea) F1 Hybrid*), the first commercial variety of extra sweet and mild bulb onions available to UK gardeners.

**Onion Supasweet™ (Dulcinea) F1 Hybrid** produces large, semi-globe, copper skinned bulbs with juicy flesh. The onions are so sweet they can be eaten raw like an apple, to provide gardeners with the full range of onion health benefits. Raw onions naturally reduce the tendency of the blood to clot and are a good source of vitamin C and the antioxidant quercetin.

Biosensor technology has been used to test Onion 'Supasweet™'. This technology is used as an industry standard to provide an accurate test of both sweetness and mildness in onion bulbs by measuring the pyruvate in onion juices.

In Thompson & Morgan's trials they found that the tasty bulbs of **Onion Supasweet™ (Dulcinea) F1 Hybrid** are best harvested as required. £1.99 for 200 seeds.



Onion 'Supasweet™  
F1 Hybrid



Shallot Banana



Onion Rosanna

Also **New & Exclusive for 2009**, Thompson & Morgan is introducing two more exciting members of the onion family from seed.

**New & Exclusive 2009 Shallot Banana.** Used by many celebrity chefs, these seed raised, long, banana-shaped shallots will grow into attractive, shiny, copper-brown skinned bulbs with crisp, white flesh and a very distinct flavour. Sowing densities will determine the size of bulbs that you will harvest. Once harvested the bulbs will store very well for winter use in the kitchen. £1.99 for 200 seeds.

**New & Exclusive 2009 Onion Rosanna.** Improved breeding brings us these reddish, brown skinned bulbs that offer a taste of the past, similar to those onions purchased from the French onion seller of yesteryear. **Onion Rosanna** has distinct semi globe shaped bulbs with a strong flavour and stunning pink rings when sliced. This variety is ideal for adding to and creating an eye-appealing salad. £1.49 for 350 seeds.

Following a sowing time of March to April for onions and March to May for shallots, all will be ready for harvesting from August onwards.

To place an order call the order line: 01473 695225 or order online at [www.thompson-morgan.com/seeds](http://www.thompson-morgan.com/seeds). To request a free copy of the 2009 Thompson & Morgan Seed Catalogue call 01473 695224 quoting PRS9.

To locate your nearest Thompson & Morgan stockist call: 01473 688821 or visit our website.

**Note to Editors:** Onion flavour (its sweetness and mildness) is significantly affected by soil type, weather conditions and its sulphur content. Light sandy soils produce the highest levels of sweetness, whereas clay and dark organic soils can result in bulbs with a stronger flavour.

For further information, reader offers or image requests please contact:

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