



Chocolate Snowflake
Nymphoides germinata

Plant Height: 3 inches

Flower Height: 6 inches

Spread: 6 feet

Sunlight: ☐ ☒

Hardiness Zone: 7a

Other Names: Water Snowflake

Description:

Dainty, fringed, star-shaped flowers rise up in summer; deep chocolate foliage with contrasting bright green veins; a beautiful addition to your pond; easy to care for; best in still water

Ornamental Features

Chocolate Snowflake features dainty yellow star-shaped flowers held atop the stems in early summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive glossy heart-shaped leaves remain burgundy in color with distinctive light green veins throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Chocolate Snowflake is an herbaceous evergreen perennial with a low habit of growth, spreading atop the surface of the water. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other garden plants with finer foliage.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Chocolate Snowflake is ideally suited for growing in a pond, water garden or patio water container, and is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Water Gardens
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting
- Bog Gardens



Chocolate Snowflake flowers
 Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Chocolate Snowflake will grow to be only 3 inches tall at maturity extending to 6 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 6 feet. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the water. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an evergreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. As an aquatic plant, it requires a suitable water garden environment and will benefit from special planting and ongoing care practices; consult one of our in-store experts for further details and instructions. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.

Chocolate Snowflake is a fine choice for the water garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its spreading habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. Note that when grown in outdoor pots and containers, aquatic plants like this one will require a special growing environment that meets their requirement for consistent moisture.