Peacock Spikemoss

Selaginella uncinata



Peacock Spikemoss
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 6 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 20 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 6

Other Names: Arborvitae Fern, Clubmoss

Description:

A very attractive fern relative that produces a large mat of dimorphic, metallic blue fan-like leaves, creating interesting colorful contrasts in the garden; perfect for shaded moist areas

Ornamental Features

Peacock Spikemoss' attractive ferny leaves emerge chartreuse in spring, turning steel blue in color the rest of the year on a plant with a spreading habit of growth.



Peacock Spikemoss foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Peacock Spikemoss is a dense herbaceous evergreen perennial with a ground-hugging habit of growth. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Peacock Spikemoss is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover

Planting & Growing

Peacock Spikemoss will grow to be only 6 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 20 inches apart. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant does best in partial shade to full shade. Keep it well away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.