Mt. Lemmon Marigold

Tagetes lemmonii



Mt. Lemmon Marigold flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 4 feet

Spread: 6 feet

Spacing: 5 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 7

Other Names: Mountain Marigold, Copper Canyon Daisy

Description:

This variety has foliage with the fragrance of mint, and a hint of camphor; evergreen in frost free areas, but will die back and re-sprout in colder areas; striking daisy like flowers in winter through spring; prefers sun and is drought tolerant

Ornamental Features

Mt. Lemmon Marigold features showy yellow daisy flowers with gold eyes at the ends of the stems from late winter to mid spring. Its attractive fragrant narrow compound leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Mt. Lemmon Marigold is an herbaceous perennial with a mounded form. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Mt. Lemmon Marigold is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Mt. Lemmon Marigold will grow to be about 4 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 feet. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 5 feet apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This species is native to parts of North America. It can be propagated by division.

Mt. Lemmon Marigold is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.