Peachie's Pick Aster

Stokesia laevis 'Peachie's Pick'

Height: 18 inches

Spread: 18 inches

Spacing: 16 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Stoke's Aster

Description:

A compact, late blooming variety for small gardens or containers; the fragrant sky blue flowers are showy and plentiful; attracts butterflies and hummingbirds to your garden; tolerates summer heat well; water daily



Peachie's Pick Aster flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Peachie's Pick Aster flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Peachie's Pick Aster has masses of beautiful fragrant double sky blue daisy flowers with white centers held atop the stems from early summer to early fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its narrow leaves remain green in color throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Peachie's Pick Aster is a dense herbaceous evergreen perennial with a mounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant. Trim off the flower heads after they fade and die to encourage more blooms late into the season. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Peachie's Pick Aster is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Peachie's Pick Aster will grow to be about 14 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 18 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 16 inches 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 8 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate 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 somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selection of a native North American species. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Peachie's Pick Aster is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers against which the thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.