Cape Gold

Helichrysum splendidum



Cape Gold in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 4 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Spacing: 30 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 7

Other Names: Everlasting

Description:

A small, bushy evergreen shrub that produces lightly camphor scented silvery foliage topped with long lasting yellow flowers in summer; will not grow in shade and prefers some shelter

Ornamental Features

Cape Gold is covered in stunning clusters of yellow flowers at the ends of the branches in mid summer. It has attractive silver evergreen foliage. The fuzzy pointy leaves are highly ornamental and remain silver throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Cape Gold is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a mounded form. It lends an extremely fine and delicate texture to the landscape composition which can make it a great accent feature on this basis alone.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Cape Gold is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Cape Gold will grow to be about 4 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 30 inches apart. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years.

This shrub 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. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by cuttings.

Cape Gold makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use 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 grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.