St. Christopher Lily

Crinum jagus

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 8

Other Names: Crinum Jagus Lily

Description:

Blooms of white with soft pink streaks tower over dark green blades of foliage; great visual impact when massed in the garden or along borders; does very well in containers and can be overwintered indoors

Ornamental Features

St. Christopher Lily features showy white trumpet-shaped flowers with pink streaks rising above the foliage from early to mid summer. Its large sword-like leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

St. Christopher Lily is an herbaceous perennial with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. 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 is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

St. Christopher Lily is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



St. Christopher Lily flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



St. Christopher Lily in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

St. Christopher Lily will grow to be about 30 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 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 does best in full sun to partial shade. 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 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 multiplication of the underground bulbs.

St. Christopher Lily is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use 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.