Plumed Celosia

Celosia plumosa



Plumed Celosia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 10 inches

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Plumed Cockscomb, Woolflower

Description:

Summer plumes of rich orange-red, set against the bright green foliage on a dense plant; vivid flower heads form at every node; a great container plant or massed along borders

Ornamental Features

Plumed Celosia features showy plumes of scarlet flowers with orange overtones rising above the foliage from early summer to mid fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its pointy leaves remain light green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Plumed Celosia is a dense herbaceous annual with an upright spreading habit of growth. 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 be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Plumed Celosia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets

Planting & Growing

Plumed Celosia will grow to be about 30 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 10 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. This fast-growing annual will normally live for one full growing season, needing replacement the following year.

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 is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. 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.

Plumed Celosia is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. 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. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.