Orchid Illusion Star Flower

Pentas lanceolata 'Orchid Illusion'



Orchid Illusion Star Flower flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 20 inches

Spread: 20 inches

Spacing: 16 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 8

Other Names: Egyptian Star Flower, Star Cluster, Starflower

Ornamental Features

Orchid Illusion Star Flower features showy corymbs of lavender star-shaped flowers with pink overtones and white eyes at the ends of the stems from late spring to early fall. Its large textured pointy leaves remain forest green in color throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Orchid Illusion Star Flower is an herbaceous evergreen perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other garden plants with finer foliage.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and can be pruned at anytime. It is a good choice for attracting bees, butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Insects

Orchid Illusion Star Flower is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Orchid Illusion Star Flower will grow to be about 20 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 20 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 fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

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 is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Orchid Illusion Star Flower 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. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.