Regal Charm™ Spiderwort

Tradescantia x andersoniana 'Regal Charm'



Regal Charm Spiderwort foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 8 inches

Flower Height: 11 inches

Spread: 15 inches

Spacing: 12 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 5

Other Names: Widow's Tears

Group/Class: Charm Series

Description:

This variety forms a compact mound of grassy-looking leaves that turn bright golden-yellow to chartreuse; regal purple, triangular flowers appear in late spring and persist for weeks; trim back hard after blooming to encourage repeat blooms



Regal Charm Spiderwort flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Regal Charm Spiderwort has masses of beautiful clusters of purple flowers with violet overtones at the ends of the stems from late spring to late summer, which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its attractive grassy leaves emerge green in spring, turning yellow in color with showy gold variegation and tinges of chartreuse throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Regal Charm Spiderwort is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. 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.

Regal Charm Spiderwort is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Regal Charm Spiderwort will grow to be about 8 inches tall at maturity extending to 11 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 15 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 12 inches apart. 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! As this plant tends to go dormant in summer, it is best interplanted with late-season bloomers to hide the dying foliage.

This plant does best in partial shade to full shade. Keep it well away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. This plant should not require much in the way of fertilizing once established, although it may appreciate a shot of general-purpose fertilizer from time to time early in the growing season. 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. Consider covering it with a thick layer of mulch in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. 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.

Regal Charm Spiderwort 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 and foliage against which the larger 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.