Madonna White Poor Man's Rhododendron

Impatiens sodenii 'Madonna'



Madonna White Poor Man's Rhododendron flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 8 feet

Spread: 10 feet

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Shrub Balsam, Touch-me-nots

Description:

Lovely clusters of white flowers nearly year round in frost free areas; a great woodland or shade garden plant; showy foliage is deep green with a white midrib; frost damaged plants usually resprout from base, prune yearly to remove damaged branches

Ornamental Features

Madonna White Poor Man's Rhododendron features showy clusters of white round flowers at the ends of the branches from early spring to late fall. Its attractive glossy narrow leaves remain dark green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Madonna White Poor Man's Rhododendron is a multi-stemmed 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 is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Madonna White Poor Man's Rhododendron is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Madonna White Poor Man's Rhododendron will grow to be about 8 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 10 feet. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. Although it's not a true annual, this plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

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 prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is quite intolerant of urban pollution, therefore inner city or urban streetside plantings are best avoided. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in both summer and winter to conserve soil moisture and protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Madonna White Poor Man's Rhododendron 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.