Hercules Rodgersia

Rodgersia pinnata 'Hercules'



Hercules Rodgersia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 24 inches

Flower Height: 4 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Spacing: 30 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Rodger's Flower, Featherleaf Rodgersia

Description:

Finely cut leaves are bronze when they emerge turning dark green; striking plumes of pink-white flowers rise high above foliage in mid-summer, and make a great display; recommend partial shade; moist soils are a necessity when planting in full sun

Ornamental Features

Hercules Rodgersia features bold plumes of pink flowers with white overtones rising above the foliage in mid summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive large serrated oval palmate leaves emerge coppery-bronze in spring, turning dark green in color. As an added bonus, the foliage turns a gorgeous dark red in the fall. The red stems are very colorful and add to the overall interest of the plant.

Landscape Attributes

Hercules Rodgersia is an herbaceous perennial with a rigidly upright and towering form. Its wonderfully bold, coarse texture can be very effective in a balanced garden composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Hercules Rodgersia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Vertical Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover

Planting & Growing

Hercules Rodgersia will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity extending to 4 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 4 feet. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 30 inches apart. It grows at a slow 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 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. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone over the growing season to conserve soil moisture. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. 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.