Whitlow Grass

Draba alpina 'var. glacialis'



Whitlow Grass flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 4 inches

Spread: 8 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 2

Description:

A sun loving, easy to grow and low maintenance selection perfect for rock or alpine gardens; small creamy white flower clusters blanket dark green foliage during the early spring months, while the foliage continues through the season

Ornamental Features

Whitlow Grass has clusters of creamy white flowers with yellow eyes at the ends of the stems in early spring, which are interesting on close inspection. Its grassy leaves remain dark green in color throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Whitlow Grass is an open herbaceous evergreen perennial with a ground-hugging habit of growth. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Whitlow Grass is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Rock/Alpine Gardens

Planting & Growing

Whitlow Grass will grow to be only 4 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 8 inches. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to dry locations, and dislikes excessive moisture. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. It is particular about its soil conditions, with a strong preference for sandy, acidic 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 division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.