Humpback Whale Hosta

Hosta 'Humpback Whale'



Humpback Whale Hosta
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 3 feet

Flower Height: 4 feet

Spread: 7 feet

Spacing: 6 feet

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 3

Other Names: Plantain Lily, Funkia

Description:

This selection produces a massive mound of blue-green, corrugated, heart shaped leaves; bluest color in springtime; near white flowers on blue-green scapes in early summer; grow in light to full shade for best blue color



Humpback Whale Hosta foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Humpback Whale Hosta features showy spikes of white tubular flowers rising above the foliage in early summer. Its attractive textured heart-shaped leaves remain bluish-green in color with hints of powder blue throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Humpback Whale Hosta is a dense herbaceous perennial with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. 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 is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Insects

Humpback Whale Hosta is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover

Planting & Growing

Humpback Whale Hosta will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity extending to 4 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 7 feet. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 6 feet apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a medium 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 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 somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. 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.