Ghost Plant

Graptopetalum paraguayense

Height: 15 inches

Spread: 30 inches

Spacing: 24 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 6

Other Names: Mother-Of-Pearl Plant



Ghost Plant
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



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Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Description:

This variety is quite cold hardy and drought tolerant, forming flat, pointed, grayish-white evergreen rosettes on stems; foliage turns pinkish-yellow in heat, and blue-gray in partial shade; ideal for rock gardens, hanging baskets, or spilled over walls

Ornamental Features

Ghost Plant features unusual clusters of yellow star-shaped flowers rising above the foliage from early to mid spring. Its attractive succulent pointy leaves emerge gray in spring, turning grayish green in color with showy shell pink variegation and tinges of yellow the rest of the year. The chartreuse stems can be quite attractive.

Landscape Attributes

Ghost Plant is a dense herbaceous evergreen perennial with a ground-hugging habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Spreading

Ghost Plant is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets

Planting & Growing

Ghost Plant will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 24 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in sandy soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by cuttings.

Ghost Plant is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. Because of its spreading habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.