Chinese Hat Plant

Holmskioldia sanguinea



Chinese Hat Plant flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 8 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 9

Other Names: Cup-and-Saucer Plant, Parasol Flower

Description:

A bushy, woody shrub that is best with some support, trellis, fence, or garden wall; showy blooms with crimson petals and orange-red calyces, borne on cymes through fall and winter; needs regular pruning to maintain density; drought tolerant

Ornamental Features

Chinese Hat Plant has rich green evergreen foliage on a plant with an arching habit of growth. The serrated oval pinnately compound leaves remain green throughout the winter. The smooth gray bark and tan branches add an interesting dimension to the landscape.



Chinese Hat Plant in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Chinese Hat Plant is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a shapely form and gracefully arching branches. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and can be pruned at anytime. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Chinese Hat Plant is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Chinese Hat Plant will grow to be about 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 8 feet. It has a low canopy, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. 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 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.

Chinese Hat Plant makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used 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 grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.