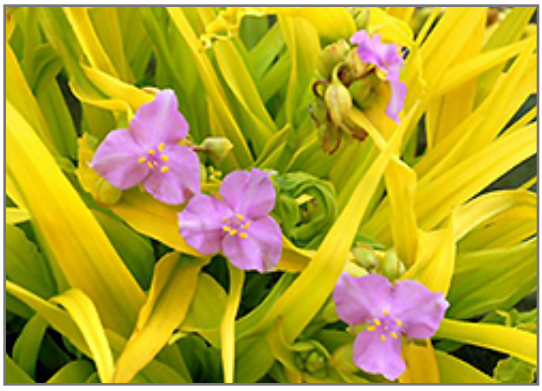
Sunshine Charm™ Spiderwort

Tradescantia x andersoniana 'Sunshine Charm'



Sunshine Charm Spiderwort flowers
Photo courtesy of Terra Nova Nurseries

Height: 20 inches

Spread: 15 inches

Spacing: 12 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 5

Other Names: Widow's Tears

Group/Class: Charm Series

Description:

This variety forms a mound of grassy-looking leaves that are bright golden-yellow to chartreuse; lovely fuchsia triangular flowers appear in early summer and persist for weeks; trim back hard after blooming to encourage repeat blooms

Ornamental Features

Sunshine Charm Spiderwort has masses of beautiful clusters of fuchsia flowers at the ends of the stems from late spring to late summer, which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its attractive grassy leaves remain gold in color with showy chartreuse variegation throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Sunshine Charm Spiderwort is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Sunshine Charm Spiderwort is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Sunshine Charm Spiderwort will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 15 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 12 inches apart. It grows at a fast 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! As this plant tends to go dormant in summer, it is best interplanted with late-season bloomers to hide the dying foliage.

This plant performs well in both full sun and full shade. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. This plant should not require much in the way of fertilizing once established, although it may appreciate a shot of general-purpose fertilizer from time to time early in the growing season. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. 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.

Sunshine Charm Spiderwort is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use 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. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.