Sofia Oleander

Nerium 'Sofia'

Height: 4 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 7

Other Names: Dwarf Oleander, Compact Oleander, Rose Bay

Description:

A lovely variety grown for its bright apricot flowers in summer; very useful to fill in open areas quickly, also often used as a patio plant; pruning required to maintain strong structure; parts of this plant are known to be toxic

Ornamental Features

Sofia Oleander features showy clusters of peach star-shaped flowers at the ends of the branches from late spring to early fall, which emerge from distinctive cherry red flower buds. It has green evergreen foliage. The narrow leaves remain green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Sofia Oleander is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a high maintenance shrub that will require regular care and upkeep, and can be pruned at anytime. 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;

- Insects

Sofia Oleander is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens



Sofia Oleander flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Sofia Oleander in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Sofia Oleander will grow to be about 4 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. It has a low canopy. 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 locations, and should do just fine under average home landscape conditions. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for xeriscaping or the moisture-conserving landscape. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in poor soils, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets.