Canyon Dudleya

Dudleya cymosa



Canyon Dudleya
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 6 inches

Flower Height: 12 inches

Spread: 8 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 6

Other Names: Canyon Live-forever

Description:

An outstanding native succulent featuring clumping rosettes of silver and olive green leaves, with tips that blush rose-purple with winter chill; showy yellow flowers with rose bracts rise on red stems in spring; great in containers or rock gardens

Ornamental Features

Canyon Dudleya features showy cymes of lightly-scented yellow flowers with rose bracts rising above the foliage from early to mid spring. Its attractive succulent narrow leaves emerge powder blue in spring, turning olive green in color with prominent purple tips and tinges of silver the rest of the year. The brick red stems can be quite attractive.

Landscape Attributes

Canyon Dudleya is an herbaceous evergreen perennial with a ground-hugging habit of growth. 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. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Canyon Dudleya is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Canyon Dudleya will grow to be only 6 inches tall at maturity extending to 12 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 8 inches. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 15 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round. As this plant tends to go dormant in summer, it is best interplanted with late-season bloomers to hide the dying foliage.

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 somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. This species is native to parts of North America. It can be propagated by division.

Canyon Dudleya is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. 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.