St. Louis Red Garden Poinsettia

Euphorbia pulcherrima 'St. Louis Red'



St. Louis Red Garden Poinsettia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



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Height: 8 feet

Spread: 10 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Description:

An attractive large shrub with narrow green leaves and small yellow floral tips, surrounded by large, bright scarlet bracts; fairly drought tolerant, but better with some irrigation; protect from frost; adds a truly exotic dimension to the garden

Ornamental Features

St. Louis Red Garden Poinsettia features showy scarlet spider-like flowers at the ends of the branches from late fall to mid winter. The "flowers" are actually comprised of a showy ring of colored bracts (modified leaf structures) surrounding the true creamy white inflorescence in the center. Its attractive narrow leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

St. Louis Red Garden Poinsettia is a multi-stemmed annual with an upright spreading 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 should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

St. Louis Red Garden Poinsettia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

St. Louis Red Garden Poinsettia will grow to be about 8 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 10 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground. Although it's not a true annual, this plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. 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 is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America, 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. It can be propagated by cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

St. Louis Red Garden Poinsettia 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. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.