Snowy Owl Centaurea

Centaurea 'Snowy Owl'



Snowy Owl Centaurea foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 18 inches

Spread: 18 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 8

Other Names: Dusty Miller

Description:

Striking white-silver foliage creates stunning contrast in hanging baskets, patio container or garden landscapes; a well branched, mounded selection that is low maintenance and easy to grow; small, bright yellow flowers rise above in the spring

Ornamental Features

Snowy Owl Centaurea's attractive tomentose lobed leaves remain white in color with hints of silver throughout the year on a plant with a mounded habit of growth.



Snowy Owl Centaurea
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Snowy Owl Centaurea is an herbaceous evergreen perennial with a mounded form. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other garden plants with finer foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. It is a good choice for attracting bees and 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.

Snowy Owl Centaurea is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets

Planting & Growing

Snowy Owl Centaurea will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 18 inches. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 4 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under typical garden conditions. 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 type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

Snowy Owl Centaurea is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a canvas of foliage against which the thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.