Mexican Hens

Echeveria shaviana

Plant Height: 3 inches

Flower Height: 12 inches

Spread: 6 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 9

Other Names: Mexican Hens And Chicks

Description:

A very drought tolerant variety, producing rosettes of gray-green to blue-gray leaves, with wavy and crinkled cream margins; distinctive pink flowers with yellow-orange tips, rise above in summer; ideal for containers, indoors or out



Mexican Hens
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Mexican Hens features unusual spikes of pink bell-shaped flowers with a orange reverse rising above the foliage from early to mid summer. Its attractive succulent pointy leaves remain grayish green in color with distinctive creamy white edges and tinges of powder blue throughout the year.



Mexican Hens
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Mexican Hens is a dense herbaceous evergreen perennial with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. 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;

- Spreading

Mexican Hens is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Mexican Hens will grow to be only 3 inches tall at maturity extending to 12 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 6 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 20 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 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 highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.

Mexican Hens is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers and foliage against which the larger 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.