Narrowleaf Silkgrass

Pityopsis graminifolia



Narrowleaf Silkgrass flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 12 inches

Flower Height: 30 inches

Spread: 18 inches

Spacing: 15 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 5

Other Names: Narrow-leaved Silkgrass

Description:

This native, evergreen, wildflower is tough and vigorous, doing well in dry, open, and sandy sites; clusters of bright yellow, daisy-like flowers rise above silvery-green grassy foliage in late summer to late fall; a great foreground plant or groundcover

Ornamental Features

Narrowleaf Silkgrass has masses of beautiful clusters of yellow daisy flowers with gold eyes rising above the foliage from late summer to late fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its attractive grassy leaves remain grayish green in color with hints of silver throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Narrowleaf Silkgrass is an 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 is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Spreading
- Self-Seeding

Narrowleaf Silkgrass is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Narrowleaf Silkgrass will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity extending to 30 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 18 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 15 inches apart. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. 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 native to parts of North America. It can be propagated by division.

Narrowleaf Silkgrass 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. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.