African Queen Crinum Lily

Crinum 'African Queen'



African Queen Crinum Lily in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 12 inches

Flower Height: 3 feet

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 7

Description:

Blooms of pure white rise from a rosette of deeply ruffled, glossy green leaves; great visual impact when massed in the garden or along borders; flowers appear in late summer or early fall adding great interest to gardens, borders or containers

Ornamental Features

African Queen Crinum Lily features showy spikes of white trumpet-shaped flowers rising above the foliage from late summer to mid fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive large glossy sword-like leaves remain dark green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

African Queen Crinum Lily is an herbaceous perennial with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. 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 be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. 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.

African Queen Crinum Lily is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

African Queen Crinum Lily will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity extending to 3 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 24 inches. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. This plant does not require much in the way of fertilizing once established. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid, 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.

African Queen Crinum Lily 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.