SIlver Blade® Evening Primrose

Oenothera macrocarpa ssp. incana

Plant Height: 4 inches

Flower Height: 8 inches

Spread: 20 inches

Spacing: 16 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Silver Leaf Evening Primrose, Bigfruit Primrose

Description:

An outstanding variety, holding bright lemon cup-shaped flowers above fine silver-green foliage from spring until frost; a vigorous grower that tolerates difficult conditions; excellent for sunny dry areas, containers and rock gardens

Ornamental Features

SIlver Blade Evening Primrose has masses of beautiful lightly-scented lemon yellow cup-shaped flowers along the stems from late spring to mid fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its attractive narrow leaves remain bluish-green in color with distinctive creamy white veins and tinges of silver throughout the season. The crimson stems are very colorful and add to the overall interest of the plant.

Landscape Attributes

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

- Self-Seeding



SIlver Blade Evening Primrose flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



SIlver Blade Evening Primrose foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

SIlver Blade Evening Primrose is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

SIlver Blade Evening Primrose will grow to be only 4 inches tall at maturity extending to 8 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 20 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 16 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. 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 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. This plant should not require much in the way of fertilizing once established, although it may appreciate a shot of general-purpose fertilizer from time to time early in the growing season. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in sandy soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is native to parts of North America. It can be propagated by division.