Quartz Creek Soft Rush

Juncus effusus 'Quartz Creek'



Quartz Creek Soft Rush foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 30 inches

Spread: 30 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 7

Other Names: Common Rush, Bog Rush, Mat Rush

Description:

An attractive selection, featuring erect, dark green, rounded grass-like stems; grows in clumps that slowly form dense colonies; good for sun or part shade in a wide range of soils, from average to wet; great as a garden plant or container accent

Ornamental Features

Quartz Creek Soft Rush is primarily valued in the garden for its ornamental upright and spreading habit of growth. It features subtle cymes of chartreuse frilly flowers at the ends of the stems from early summer to early fall. Its attractive grassy leaves are dark green in color. The foliage often turns yellow and in fall.

Landscape Attributes

Quartz Creek Soft Rush is an open herbaceous perennial grass with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cut back to the ground in late winter before active growth resumes. 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

Quartz Creek Soft Rush is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting
- Bog Gardens

Planting & Growing

Quartz Creek Soft Rush will grow to be about 30 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 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 8 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 is quite adaptable, prefering to grow in average to wet conditions, and will even tolerate some standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. 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 type, but has a definite preference for acidic soils, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selection of a native North American species.

Quartz Creek Soft Rush 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. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.