Shorty Mat Rush

Lomandra confertifolia 'PomPom'



Shorty Mat Rush
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 18 inches

Spread: 30 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 8

Other Names: Pom Pom Mat Rush, Basket Grass, Lomandra

Description:

A tough, clump forming plant, featuring strappy, lime green leaves that arch outward; subtle, fragrant cream to yellow flower spikes are nearly hidden within the foliage; adaptable to dry sites as well as moist; great in borders or for soil retention

Ornamental Features

Shorty Mat Rush is primarily valued in the garden for its cascading habit of growth. It features subtle spikes of fragrant yellow flowers with creamy white overtones dangling from the stems from late spring to early summer. Its attractive grassy leaves remain lime green in color throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Shorty Mat Rush is an herbaceous evergreen perennial grass with a shapely form and gracefully arching stems. 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 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, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Shorty Mat Rush is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Shorty Mat Rush will grow to be about 18 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 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 is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under typical garden conditions. 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 type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Shorty Mat Rush 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 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.