# Santa Barbara Island Live-Forever

***Dudleya traskiae***



*Santa Barbara Island Live-Forever*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

Plant Height: 4 inches

Flower Height: 8 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 9

**Description:**

An attractive native succulent featuring clumping rosettes of powder blue to pale green leaves, with tips that blush red with winter chill; dainty yellow flower clusters rise on showy rose stems in spring; great in containers or rock gardens

**Ornamental Features**

Santa Barbara Island Live-Forever features showy cymes of lightly-scented yellow flowers rising above the foliage from late spring to early summer. Its attractive succulent narrow leaves emerge powder blue in spring, turning grayish green in color with prominent red tips and tinges of white the rest of the year. The rose stems are very colorful and add to the overall interest of the plant.

**Landscape Attributes**

Santa Barbara Island Live-Forever is an herbaceous evergreen perennial with a ground-hugging 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 and hummingbirds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Santa Barbara Island Live-Forever is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

**Planting & Growing**

Santa Barbara Island Live-Forever will grow to be only 4 inches tall at maturity extending to 8 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 12 inches. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 15 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round. As this plant tends to go dormant in summer, it is best interplanted with late-season bloomers to hide the dying foliage.

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. Like most succulents and cacti, this plant prefers to grow in poor soils and should therefore never be fertilized. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in sandy soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. This species is native to parts of North America. It can be propagated by division.

Santa Barbara Island Live-Forever is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its spreading habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.