Alpine Willowherb

Epilobium fleischeri

Height: 20 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 12 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 3

Description:

A lovely compact selection featuring delicate looking pink flowers among fine, gray-green foliage; a great option for adding texture and softness to garden beds, borders or mixed containers; deadhead flowers to prevent reseeding

Ornamental Features

Alpine Willowherb features delicate spikes of pink trumpet-shaped flowers at the ends of the stems from mid summer to early fall. Its small pointy leaves remain grayish green in color throughout the season. The antique red stems can be quite attractive.

Landscape Attributes

Alpine Willowherb is a dense herbaceous perennial 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 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, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Self-Seeding

Alpine Willowherb is recommended for the following landscape applications;



Alpine Willowherb in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Alpine Willowherb flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Alpine Willowherb will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 12 inches apart. 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 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 is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any 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 type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.

Alpine Willowherb 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.