Spanish Dancer Toadflax

Linaria reticulata 'Spanish Dancer'



Spanish Dancer Toadflax in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 18 inches

Spread: 14 inches

Spacing: 12 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Description:

This fragrant variety features small, snap dragon-like flowers of crimson and gold that will continue to bloom in cool conditions; excellent heat tolerance; self seeding; a great bedding plant that is visually stunning when massed

Ornamental Features

Spanish Dancer Toadflax has masses of beautiful spikes of fragrant crimson hooded flowers with a gold blotch rising above the foliage from late spring to early fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its ferny leaves remain grayish green in color with hints of silvery blue throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Spanish Dancer Toadflax is an herbaceous annual with an upright spreading habit of growth. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant. Trim off the flower heads after they fade and die to encourage more blooms late into 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. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Self-Seeding

Spanish Dancer Toadflax is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Spanish Dancer Toadflax will grow to be about 16 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 14 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 12 inches apart. This fast-growing annual will normally live for one full growing season, needing replacement the following year. However, this species tends to self-seed and may thereby endure for years in the garden if allowed.

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. To help this plant achive its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Spanish Dancer Toadflax 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 against which the larger 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.