Large Red Carpet Stonecrop

Crassula pubescens ssp. radicans 'Large Red'

Plant Height: 6 inches

Flower Height: 8 inches

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 8

Other Names: syn. Crassula radicans, Globulea radicans

Description:

A prostrate, spreading variety with oval green leaves that turn brilliant red-purple in winter sun; very drought-tolerant and does well in poor soils; clusters of cream flowers in late summer; an excellent choice for containers and rock gardens

Ornamental Features

Large Red Carpet Stonecrop features showy clusters of creamy white star-shaped flowers rising above the foliage from late summer to early fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive succulent oval leaves remain green in color with showy red variegation and tinges of purple throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Large Red Carpet Stonecrop 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. 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. It has no significant negative characteristics.



Large Red Carpet Stonecrop foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Large Red Carpet Stonecrop
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Large Red Carpet Stonecrop is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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



Large Red Carpet Stonecrop
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Large Red Carpet Stonecrop will grow to be only 6 inches tall at maturity extending to 8 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 3 feet. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a slow 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.

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 poor 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 selected variety of a species not originally from North America, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets. 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.

Large Red Carpet Stonecrop 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.