Showy Lanterns Enkianthus

Enkianthus campanulatus 'Showy Lanterns'



Showy Lanterns Enkianthus flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 10 feet

Spread: 5 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Redvein Enkianthus

Description:

A delicate garden shrub for the collector, with dainty dark red bells in spring and spectacular fall color; very fussy about growing conditions, a perfectly drained moist acidic soil is essential



Showy Lanterns Enkianthus in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Showy Lanterns Enkianthus features dainty racemes of lightly-scented scarlet bell-shaped flowers with tan overtones and dark red veins hanging below the branches from mid to late spring. It has green deciduous foliage. The small pointy leaves turn an outstanding orange in the fall.

Landscape Attributes

Showy Lanterns Enkianthus is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Showy Lanterns Enkianthus is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Showy Lanterns Enkianthus will grow to be about 10 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 30 years.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. 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. It is very fussy about its soil conditions and must have rich, acidic soils to ensure success, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.