Samobor Cranesbill

Geranium phaeum 'Samobor'

Height: 20 inches

Spread: 15 inches

Spacing: 12 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Mourning Widow Cranesbill

Description:

Attractive green leaves have deep cherry-red blotches when they emerge and widen into a large purple marking; covered with small burgundy colored blooms; deadhead spent flowers for reblooming later in the season



Samobor Cranesbill in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Samobor Cranesbill in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Samobor Cranesbill has masses of beautiful plum purple flowers with white eyes and a deep purple blotch at the ends of the stems from mid spring to early summer, which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its attractive deeply cut lobed palmate leaves remain dark green in color with distinctive deep purple spots throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Samobor Cranesbill is an herbaceous perennial with a mounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Samobor Cranesbill is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Samobor Cranesbill will grow to be about 20 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 15 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 prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. 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.

Samobor Cranesbill is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It can be used either as 'filler' or as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, depending on the height and form of the other plants used in the container planting. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.