Larch Leaved Sandwort

Minuartia laricifolia



Larch Leaved Sandwort flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 5 inches

Spread: 15 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4

Description:

This is an alpine plant that is perfect for the rockery or alpine troughs; sea green foliage is dense and has a rich look; white flowers emerge from purplish round buds that are massed upon the foliage

Ornamental Features

Larch Leaved Sandwort has masses of beautiful white cup-shaped flowers with lavender edges at the ends of the stems in late spring, which emerge from distinctive purple flower buds, and which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its narrow leaves remain bluish-green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Larch Leaved Sandwort is a dense herbaceous perennial with a mounded form. 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, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Larch Leaved Sandwort is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Larch Leaved Sandwort will grow to be only 5 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 15 inches. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 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 is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. 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.

Larch Leaved Sandwort 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 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.