Halley Hardy Gladiola

Gladiolus nanus 'Halley'



Halley Hardy Gladiola flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 5

Description:

An exciting smaller gladiola that displays luxurious white blooms with yellow centers that are streaked with red; bloom time is mid-summer; may not always need staking, but should be sheltered from wind

Ornamental Features

Halley Hardy Gladiola features showy spikes of white flowers with yellow eyes and red streaks along the stems in early summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive sword-like leaves remain dark green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Halley Hardy Gladiola is an herbaceous perennial with a rigidly upright and towering form. 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, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. 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.

Halley Hardy Gladiola is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Halley Hardy Gladiola will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 inches. The flower stalks can be weak and so it may require staking in exposed sites or excessively rich soils. 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 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. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. 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. 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.

Halley Hardy Gladiola is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.