Peter Knippel Garden Centre

4590 Bank St.
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Autumn Carnival Obedient Plant

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Physostegia virginiana 'NICAUCA'



Autumn Carnival Obedient Plant flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 12 inches

Flower Height: 18 inches

Spread: 18 inches

Spacing: 18 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: False Dragonhead

Description:

An upright, bushy, clump forming version of obedient plant with very pretty, light lavender-pink blooms in late summer and fall; compact and well behaved, with shorter rhizomes than the species; a fine selection where it can be contained



Autumn Carnival Obedient Plant flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Autumn Carnival Obedient Plant has masses of beautiful spikes of pink hooded flowers with lavender overtones rising above the foliage from late summer to mid fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its serrated narrow leaves remain dark green in colour throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Autumn Carnival Obedient Plant is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading 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 plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Spreading

Autumn Carnival Obedient Plant is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Autumn Carnival Obedient Plant will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity extending to 18 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 18 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 18 inches apart. 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 is quite adaptable, prefering to grow in average to wet conditions, and will even tolerate some standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selection of a native North American species. 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.

Autumn Carnival Obedient Plant 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 larger 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. Be aware that in our climate, most plants cannot be expected to survive the winter if left in containers outdoors, and this plant is no exception. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.