HERITAGE
FARM & GARDEN

## Summerific® French Vanilla Hibiscus

***Hibiscus 'French Vanilla'***



*Summerific French Vanilla Hibiscus flowers*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

Height: 4 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Spacing: 3 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Other Names: Rose Mallow, Hardy Hibiscus

Group/Class: Summerific Series

**Description:**

This bold garden perennial features very showy, ruffled, custard yellow flowers with crimson red eyes, over attractive, dark green leaves; a sturdy and vigorous grower with a compact habit; do not allow to dry to wilting point

**Ornamental Features**

Summerific French Vanilla Hibiscus features bold buttery yellow round flowers with white overtones and crimson eyes at the ends of the stems from mid summer to early fall. Its large pointy leaves remain dark green in color throughout the season.

**Landscape Attributes**

Summerific French Vanilla Hibiscus 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 should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Insects
- Self-Seeding

Summerific French Vanilla Hibiscus is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

**Planting & Growing**

Summerific French Vanilla Hibiscus will grow to be about 4 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 3 feet apart. 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 requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in 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. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. It can be propagated by cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Summerific French Vanilla Hibiscus 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. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.