Lakeshore Garden Centres

Abyssinian Gladiolus

4102 - 11th St. West
P.O. Box 2A RR3
Saskatoon, SK, S7K 3J6
phone: 306-382-2077
info@lakeshoregardencentre.com
www.lakeshoregardencentre.com

Abyssinian Gladiolus

Gladiolus murielae

Plant Height: 24 inches

Flower Height: 3 feet

Spread: 18 inches

Spacing: 6 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Peacock Orchid, Acidanthera murielae, Sword Lily

Description:

An exciting variety that displays large, striking white blooms with dark burgundy blotches in mid-summer; best grown in humusy, well drained soil in full sun, but very adaptable; protect from strong winds

Ornamental Features

Abyssinian Gladiolus features showy spikes of white orchid-like flowers with creamy white throats and a burgundy blotch at the ends of the stems from early to late summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its sword-like leaves remain dark green in colour throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Abyssinian Gladiolus is an herbaceous annual 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.



Abyssinian Gladiolus flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Abyssinian Gladiolus in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Lakeshore Garden Centres

4102 - 11th St. West
P.O. Box 2A RR3
Saskatoon, SK, S7K 3J6
phone: 306-382-2077
info@lakeshoregardencentre.com
www.lakeshoregardencentre.com

Abyssinian Gladiolus

Abyssinian Gladiolus is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Abyssinian Gladiolus flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Abyssinian Gladiolus will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity extending to 3 feet 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 6 inches apart. Although it's not a true annual, this fast-growing plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

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 is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. 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 species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.

Abyssinian Gladiolus 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.