Lakeshore Garden Centres

Moonlight Sonata Daphne

4102 - 11th St. West
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Moonlight Sonata Daphne

Daphne x burkwoodii 'Moonlight Sonata'



Moonlight Sonata Daphne flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ◐

Hardiness Zone: 6a

Description:

This eye catching variety has luminous foliage with narrow dark green margins around highly contrasting pale cream centers; clusters of white to pale pink flowers in spring are potently fragrant; prefers partial shade; drought tolerant once established

Ornamental Features

Moonlight Sonata Daphne features showy clusters of fragrant white tubular flowers with pink overtones at the ends of the branches in mid spring, which emerge from distinctive pink flower buds. It has attractive creamy white foliage edged in dark green which emerges buttery yellow in spring. The narrow leaves are highly ornamental and remain creamy white throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Moonlight Sonata Daphne is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should never be pruned except to remove any dieback, as it tends not to take pruning well. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Disease

Moonlight Sonata Daphne is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

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Planting & Growing

Moonlight Sonata Daphne will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub should be grown in a location with partial shade or which is shaded from the hot afternoon sun. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. This plant should not require much in the way of fertilizing once established, although it may appreciate a shot of general-purpose fertilizer from time to time early in the growing season. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in clay 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 particular variety is an interspecific hybrid, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets.

Moonlight Sonata Daphne makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use 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 grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also 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.

This plant is not reliably hardy in our region, and certain restrictions may apply; contact the store for more information.