

Hairy Canaryflower



Hairy Canaryflower

Dorycnium hirsutum

Height: 18 inches

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 9a

Other Names: Syn. Bonjeanea hirsuta, Cytisus lotus

Description:

A low growing, evergreen sub-shrub with a woody base and soft, gray-white fuzzy foliage; white, clover-like flower clusters are held at the branch ends in summer through fall, followed by red-brown seed pods; great along walkways or spilling over rocks

Ornamental Features

Hairy Canaryflower is blanketed in stunning clusters of white flowers with pink veins held atop the branches from mid summer to late fall. Its attractive tiny tomentose pointy leaves remain grayish green in colour with distinctive white edges and tinges of silver throughout the year. The fruits are showy burgundy pods carried in abundance from mid fall to late winter.

Landscape Attributes

Hairy Canaryflower is a multi-stemmed evergreen perennial with a mounded 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 only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. 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. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Self-Seeding

Hairy Canaryflower is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting



Hairy Canaryflower
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Hairy Canaryflower will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. Although it is technically a woody plant, this plant can be expected to behave as a perennial in our climate if planted outdoors over the winter, usually regrowing from its base (crown) 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 prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. This plant does not require much in the way of fertilizing once established. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for alkaline soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America..

Hairy Canaryflower 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 and foliage against which the 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.