

Pygmaea Helvola Hardy Water Lily



Pygmaea Helvola Hardy Water Lily *Nymphaea 'Pygmaea Helvola'*

Height: 10 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight: ○ ●

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Other Names: Dwarf Yellow, Helvola Pygmy, Pygmy Yellow

Group/Class: Miniature Water Lily

Description:

Small, dainty, pale yellow flowers with golden-yellow centers; attractive, tiny green leaves are mottled in burgundy; a beautiful addition to a small pond or container garden; easy to care for; water lilies dislike moving water

Ornamental Features

Pygmaea Helvola Hardy Water Lily features showy fragrant lemon yellow cup-shaped flowers with gold eyes at the ends of the stems from late spring to late summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive tiny glossy round leaves emerge burgundy in spring, turning green in colour with showy burgundy variegation and tinges of chartreuse the rest of the year.

Landscape Attributes

Pygmaea Helvola Hardy Water Lily is an herbaceous evergreen perennial with a ground-hugging habit of growth. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other garden plants with finer foliage.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Pygmaea Helvola Hardy Water Lily is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Water Gardens
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting
- Bog Gardens



*Pygmaea Helvola Hardy Water Lily
flowers*
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Pygmaea Helvola Hardy Water Lily in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Pygmaea Helvola Hardy Water Lily will grow to be about 8 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an evergreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It is an excellent choice for very wet locations or locations with some standing water. To help this plant achieve its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. 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.

Pygmaea Helvola Hardy Water Lily is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its spreading habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. 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.