### **Lakeshore Garden Centres**

## **Sandy Claws Barrenwort**

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



# Sandy Claws Barrenwort Epimedium wushanense 'Sandy Claws'

Plant Height: 12 inches
Flower Height: 16 inches

Hardiness Zone: 6b

Other Names: Fairy Wings, Bishop's Hat, Elf Orchid

#### **Description:**

A unique variety featuring long, lance-shaped leaves with spiny margins that emerge burgundy, mellowing to dark green by summer; cream colored flowers in spring contrast well with the foliage; a great garden shade plant; combine with hostas and ferns

#### **Ornamental Features**

Sandy Claws Barrenwort features delicate spikes of creamy white orchid-like flowers rising above the foliage from mid to late spring. Its attractive spiny narrow leaves emerge burgundy in spring, turning forest green in colour the rest of the year.

#### **Landscape Attributes**

Sandy Claws Barrenwort is a dense herbaceous evergreen perennial with a ground-hugging habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.



Sandy Claws Barrenwort in bloom Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Sandy Claws Barrenwort flowers Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting bees 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;

- Spreading
- Spiny

Sandy Claws Barrenwort is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

#### **Planting & Growing**

Sandy Claws Barrenwort will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity extending to 16 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 24 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 18 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant does best in partial shade to shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. 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.

Sandy Claws Barrenwort 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.

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