Lakeshore Garden Centres

Hoary Mountain Mint

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

Hoary Mountain Mint

Pycnanthemum incanum

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Spacing: 4 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Other Names: Wild Basil, Hoary Basil, Mountainmint

Description:

An aromatic, summer bloomer that produces white flower clusters with a hint of lavender, on sturdy upright stems; blooms persist from summer through fall; foliage and bracts just below flowers are silvery-white; an excellent border or container plant

Ornamental Features

Hoary Mountain Mint has masses of beautiful clusters of white flowers with lavender overtones and white bracts at the ends of the stems from mid summer to mid fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its fragrant pointy leaves remain grayish green in colour throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Hoary Mountain Mint is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

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. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Spreading



Hoary Mountain Mint flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Hoary Mountain Mint in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Hoary Mountain Mint is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Hoary Mountain Mint will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 4 feet apart. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!



Hoary Mountain Mint flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This species is native to parts of North America.

Hoary Mountain Mint 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. 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.