

Stonegate Gardens

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Giant Water Lily



Giant Water Lily

Victoria amazonica

Plant Height: 4 inches

Flower Height: 6 inches

Spread: 10 feet

Sunlight: ☉ ●

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Giant Waterlily, syn. *Victoria regia*



Giant Water Lily

Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Description:

Tropical water lily with flowers that emerge white, then develop deep pink streaks; amazingly large round green leaves with upturned edges float on waters surface for a great visual display; water lilies dislike moving water; annual in colder climates

Ornamental Features

Giant Water Lily features showy fragrant white cup-shaped flowers with hot pink overtones at the ends of the stems from early summer to late fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive enormous glossy round leaves emerge burgundy in spring, turning dark green in color with distinctive pink edges and tinges of burgundy the rest of the year.

Landscape Attributes

Giant Water Lily is an herbaceous annual 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.

Giant Water Lily is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

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Planting & Growing

Giant Water Lily will grow to be only 4 inches tall at maturity extending to 6 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 10 feet. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. Although it's not a true annual, this fast-growing plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

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. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.

Giant 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.