





# Terra Nova® Magic Spell Coleus Solenostemon scutellarioides 'Magic Spell'

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Flame Nettle, Painted Nettle

Group/Class: Terra Nova Collection

## **Description:**

This dazzling beauty has bright fuchsia to cream leaves with green edges; presents a great self-branching, mounding and trailing habit; perfect for gardens, containers, hanging baskets and mixed borders

#### **Ornamental Features**

Terra Nova Magic Spell Coleus' attractive serrated pointy leaves remain fuchsia in color with distinctive lime green edges and tinges of buttery yellow throughout the year on a plant with a mounded habit of growth.

#### **Landscape Attributes**

Terra Nova Magic Spell Coleus is an herbaceous annual 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.



Terra Nova Magic Spell Coleus foliage Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Terra Nova Magic Spell Coleus Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

This is a relatively low maintenance plant. The flowers of this plant may actually detract from its ornamental features, so they can be removed as they appear. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Terra Nova Magic Spell Coleus is recommended for the following landscape applications:

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets





### **Planting & Growing**

Terra Nova Magic Spell Coleus will grow to be about 10 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 20 inches apart. 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 partial shade to full shade. Keep it well away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone over the growing season to conserve soil moisture. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Terra Nova Magic Spell Coleus is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a canvas of 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.