HOMESTEAD GARDENS
Plant FINDER
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Sombrero® Summer Solstice Coneflower

Echinacea 'Balsomsolst'

Height: 20 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 18 inches

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Group/Class: Sombrero Series

Description:

Sunny, bright yellow flowers, with white rings surrounding dark brown cones; strong, well branched stems; attracts pollinators and feeds the birds in winter; use in naturalized areas with other native plants



Sombrero Summer Solstice Coneflower flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Sombrero Summer Solstice Coneflower has masses of beautiful lightly-scented yellow daisy flowers with dark brown eyes and a white ring at the ends of the stems from late spring to late summer, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its pointy leaves remain dark green in color throughout the season.



Sombrero Summer Solstice Coneflower flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Sombrero Summer Solstice Coneflower is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Sombrero Summer Solstice Coneflower is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Sombrero Summer Solstice Coneflower will grow to be about 18 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 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 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!

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under typical garden conditions. 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 type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. 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.

Sombrero Summer Solstice Coneflower 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. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.