Homestead Gardens Plant Finder

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Silly String Hosta

Hosta 'Silly String'

Plant Height: 14 inches

Flower Height: 24 inches

Spread: 28 inches

Spacing: 24 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 2a

Other Names: Plantain Lily, Funkia

Description:

This unique variety has long, narrow, heavily rippled leaves that emerge powder blue, maturing to blue-green; pale purple flowers appear in mid-summer; unusual texture and great color for beds, borders or containers; quite hardy and low maintenance

Ornamental Features

Silly String Hosta features dainty spikes of purple tubular flowers rising above the foliage in mid summer. Its attractive twisted narrow leaves emerge powder blue in spring, turning bluish-green in color with hints of silvery blue throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Silly String Hosta is an herbaceous perennial with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.



Silly String Hosta in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Silly String Hosta
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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

- Insects

Silly String Hosta is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting



Silly String Hosta
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Silly String Hosta will grow to be about 14 inches tall at maturity extending to 24 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 28 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 24 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a fast 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 does best in partial shade to shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. 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.

Silly String Hosta 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.