



HOMESTEAD GARDENS

Plant FINDER

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Stratosphere™ White Gaura

Gaura lindheimeri 'Gautalwi'

Plant Height: 12 inches

Flower Height: 18 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 10 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Other Names: Butterfly Gaura

Description:

Compact and well branched, this selection features small white flowers on tall stems that rise above mounds of green foliage; a beautiful addition to borders, beds, containers and fresh-cut arrangements

Ornamental Features

Stratosphere White Gaura features airy spikes of white star-shaped flowers rising above the foliage from early summer to early fall, which emerge from distinctive red flower buds. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its narrow leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Stratosphere White Gaura is an open herbaceous perennial with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.



Stratosphere White Gaura flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Stratosphere White Gaura in bloom
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 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.

Stratosphere White Gaura is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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



*Stratosphere White Gaura in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

Planting & Growing

Stratosphere White Gaura will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity extending to 18 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 12 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 10 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 8 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 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 somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selection of a native North American species. 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.

Stratosphere White Gaura is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers against which the larger 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.