Homestead Gardens Plant Finder

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Black Stockings Meadow Rue

Thalictrum 'Black Stockings'



Black Stockings Meadow Rue flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 3 feet

Flower Height: 5 feet

Spread: 30 inches

Spacing: 24 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Ornamental Features

Black Stockings Meadow Rue features bold spikes of lavender flowers rising above the foliage from late spring to mid summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its round compound leaves remain light green in color throughout the season. The black stems are very colorful and add to the overall interest of the plant.

Landscape Attributes

Black Stockings Meadow Rue is an herbaceous perennial with a rigidly upright and towering 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.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It is a good choice for attracting bees and 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.

Black Stockings Meadow Rue is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens



Black Stockings Meadow Rue in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Black Stockings Meadow Rue will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity extending to 5 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 30 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 24 inches apart. 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 does best in partial shade to shade. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth. 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 over the growing season to conserve soil moisture. 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.