PLANT FINDER

Twisted Celosia

Celosia cristata 'Twisted'

Twisted Celosia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 20 inches

Spread: 14 inches

Spacing: 12 inches

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Cockscomb, Plume Celosia, Woolflower

Description:

Intricately twisted summer plumes of bright red, set against the pale olive green foliage; an impressive display when massed in the garden or along borders; a great container plant as well; does not perform well in cool conditions

Ornamental Features

Twisted Celosia features showy plumes of scarlet flowers with hot pink overtones rising above the foliage from early summer to mid fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its pointy leaves remain olive green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Twisted Celosia is a dense herbaceous annual 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 plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Twisted Celosia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Twisted Celosia will grow to be about 16 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 14 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 12 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. This fast-growing annual will normally live for one full growing season, needing replacement the following year.

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. 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 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.

Twisted Celosia is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. 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.