Garden Gloxinia

Incarvillea delavayi

Plant Height: 18 inches

Flower Height: 24 inches

Spread: 15 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Other Names: Hardy Gloxinia, Chinese Trumpet Flower

Description:

Large rose colored trumpets tower high above fuzzy, ferny foliage to make this a showy plant for gardens or containers; use a winter mulch in exposed areas or colder zones to help overwinter the fleshy taproot; requires good drainage



Garden Gloxinia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Garden Gloxinia features showy pink trumpet-shaped flowers with yellow throats rising above the foliage from late spring to mid summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its tomentose ferny leaves remain green in color throughout the season. The burgundy stems can be quite attractive.



Garden Gloxinia in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Garden Gloxinia is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Garden Gloxinia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Garden Gloxinia will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity extending to 24 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 15 inches. 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 5 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 prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in 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 pH, but grows best in sandy soils. 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 species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.

Garden Gloxinia 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.