Citrosa Geranium

Pelargonium citrosum

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 10 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Scented Geranium, Deodorizer Plant

Description:

This variety is a perennial sub-shrub with interesting, ferny, fragrant leaves that are reminiscent of citronella; it is a myth that this plant actually repels mosquitos; small clusters of violet-lavender flowers in summer; a great textural groundcover



Citrosa Geranium
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Citrosa Geranium's attractive fragrant ferny palmate leaves remain green in color throughout the year on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth. It features bold clusters of lightly-scented violet flowers with lavender overtones at the ends of the stems from late spring to early fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting.



Citrosa Geranium foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Citrosa Geranium is an 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. Trim off the flower heads after they fade and die to encourage more blooms late into the season. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Citrosa Geranium is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Citrosa Geranium will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, 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. Although it's not a true annual, this fast-growing plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. 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 species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by cuttings.

Citrosa Geranium 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.