Summer Snowflake

Leucojum aestivum



Summer Snowflake flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 15 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 10 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Other Names: Loddon Lily

Description:

Dainty nodding white bell flowers with chartreuse petal tips over the strap shaped, glossy dark green leaves; excellent for borders, rock gardens, pond margins, or containers

Ornamental Features

Summer Snowflake has masses of beautiful lightly-scented nodding white bell-shaped flowers with chartreuse tips at the ends of the stems in mid spring, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its sword-like leaves remain dark green in color throughout the season.



Summer Snowflake in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Summer Snowflake is a dense herbaceous perennial with a more or less rounded 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. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Summer Snowflake is recommended for the following landscape applications;

170 S River Rd (US 45)
Des Plaines IL 60016

phone: 847-299-1300
web: www.pesches.com

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

Planting & Growing

Summer Snowflake will grow to be about 12 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. It grows at a fast 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! As this plant tends to go dormant in summer, it is best interplanted with late-season bloomers to hide the dying foliage.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. 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 species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by multiplication of the underground bulbs.

Summer Snowflake 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 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.