Snow-In-Summer

Cerastium tomentosum



Snow-In-Summer flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 8 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 2b

Other Names: Wooly Mouse-Ear Chickweed

Description:

Masses of short-lived, small white flowers bloom on beautiful low growing, silvery-gray foliage during the early summer months; drought tolerant, perfect for rock gardens, borders, groundcover or used in containers; remove blooms to control self-seeding

Ornamental Features

Snow-In-Summer is smothered in stunning white bell-shaped flowers at the ends of the stems in early summer. Its attractive tomentose narrow leaves remain gray in colour with hints of silver throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Snow-In-Summer is an herbaceous evergreen perennial with a ground-hugging habit of growth. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

This is a high maintenance plant that will require regular care and upkeep, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Spreading
- Invasive



Snow-In-Summer in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Snow-In-Summer is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Snow-In-Summer will grow to be about 8 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.



Snow-In-Summer in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. 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 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 division.

Snow-In-Summer is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its spreading habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.