Tuscan Sun False Sunflower

Heliopsis helianthoides 'Tuscan Sun'

Tuscan Sun False Sunflower flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 15 inches

Flower Height: 20 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 12 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: Oxeye Daisy, Perennial Sunflower

Description:

Compact form, bright, beautiful gold blooms lit up by mohogany centres, this native plant is low maintenance and beneficial to pollinators; leave standing over winter so songbirds can feast on the seeds; prefers moist soil but can survive drought

Tuscan Sun False Sunflower in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Tuscan Sun False Sunflower has masses of beautiful gold daisy flowers with coppery-bronze eyes at the ends of the stems from early summer to mid fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its serrated oval leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Tuscan Sun False Sunflower is an herbaceous perennial 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 is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Tuscan Sun False Sunflower is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Tuscan Sun False Sunflower will grow to be about 15 inches tall at maturity extending to 20 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 12 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. 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!

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under typical garden conditions. 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 selection of a native North American species. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Tuscan Sun False Sunflower 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.