Mexican Evening Primrose

Oenothera berlandieri

Mexican Evening Primrose in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 12 inches

Spread: 30 inches

Spacing: 26 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Description:

A compact, prostrate plant with flowers stalks holding pink or white cup-shaped flowers above the plant; a vigorous ground-hugging grower, makes an excellent ground cover

Ornamental Features

Mexican Evening Primrose has masses of beautiful lightly-scented shell pink cup-shaped flowers with rose overtones and yellow eyes along the stems from late spring to early fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its narrow leaves remain olive green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Mexican Evening Primrose is an herbaceous perennial with a ground-hugging 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 high maintenance plant that will require regular care and upkeep, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Spreading

Mexican Evening Primrose is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens

Planting & Growing

Mexican Evening Primrose will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 26 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 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 somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is native to parts of North America. It can be propagated by division.