Ambassador Scarlet Begonia

Begonia 'Ambassador Scarlet'



Ambassador Scarlet Begonia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 12 inches

Spread: 10 inches

Spacing: 8 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Semperflorens, Fibrous

Group/Class: Wax Begonia

Description:

Early blooming and uniform, this compact mounded series features large, brightly colored flowers over rich green foliage; excellent garden performance in borders, beds and containers; free flowering throughout the season; deadhead to encourage new blooms



Ambassador Scarlet Begonia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Ambassador Scarlet Begonia features dainty scarlet orchid-like flowers with yellow throats at the ends of the stems from mid spring to early fall. Its attractive glossy heart-shaped leaves emerge light green in spring, turning dark green in color with distinctive coppery-bronze edges throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Ambassador Scarlet Begonia is an herbaceous annual with a mounded 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 high maintenance plant that will require regular care and upkeep, and usually looks its best without pruning, although it will tolerate pruning. 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;

- Insects
- Disease

Ambassador Scarlet Begonia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Ambassador Scarlet Begonia will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 10 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 8 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. This annual will normally live for one full growing season, needing replacement the following year.

This plant does best in a location that gets morning sunlight but is shaded from the hot afternoon sun, although it will also grow in full shade. Keep it away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. This plant should not require much in the way of fertilizing once established, although it may appreciate a shot of general-purpose fertilizer from time to time early in the growing season. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone over the growing season to conserve soil moisture. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. It can be propagated by cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Ambassador Scarlet Begonia is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers and foliage 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.