Safari Sunrise Conebush

Leucadendron 'Safari Sunrise'

Height: 8 feet

Spread: 6 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 9a

Description:

This vigorous, freely branching flowering shrub in the Protea family, has brilliant, purplish-red bracts that fade to golden yellow, around yellow-green flower heads; interesting stems are great for ikebana; avoid phosphorus fertilizers



Safari Sunrise Conebush flower buds
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Safari Sunrise Conebush features showy ruby-red daisy flowers with purple overtones, yellow eyes and red tips at the ends of the branches in early spring. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has attractive olive green foliage edged in red. The oval leaves are highly ornamental and turn an outstanding red in the fall, which persists throughout the winter. The dark red branches are extremely showy and add significant winter interest.



Safari Sunrise Conebush in spring
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Safari Sunrise Conebush is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, 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. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Safari Sunrise Conebush is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Safari Sunrise Conebush will grow to be about 8 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 30 years.

This shrub 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 xeriscaping or the moisture-conserving landscape. This plant does not require much in the way of fertilizing once established. It is particular about its soil conditions, with a strong preference for poor, alkaline soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

Safari Sunrise Conebush makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use 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. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.