Phlox, (Garden) Backlight

Phlox paniculata 'Backlight'

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 20 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: Summer Phlox

Group/Class: Luminary Series

Description:

Stunning pure white flowers produce well defined panicles, over lush, dark green foliage; perfect for perennial borders, along walkways, or in containers; demonstrates great disease resistance, even in hot, humid conditions

Ornamental Features

Phlox, (Garden) Backlight features bold fragrant conical white star-shaped flowers at the ends of the stems from mid to late summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its pointy leaves remain dark green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Phlox, (Garden) Backlight is a dense 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 plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Disease

Phlox, (Garden) Backlight is recommended for the following landscape applications;



Phlox, (Garden) Backlight flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Phlox, (Garden) Backlight in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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

Planting & Growing

Phlox, (Garden) Backlight will grow to be about 30 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 20 inches apart. It grows at a medium 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 does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. To help this plant achive its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. 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.

Phlox, (Garden) Backlight 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. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.