Ohio Spiderwort

Tradescantia ohiensis



Ohio Spiderwort flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 30 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 18 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Other Names: Blue Jacket

Description:

A vigorous clump forming variety that can get up to three feet tall; short lived flowers bloom from terminal clusters in succession; pretty blue to rose blooms emerge over long, grass-like, blue-green foliage; perfect for shaded gardens

Ornamental Features

Ohio Spiderwort has masses of beautiful clusters of blue flowers with rose overtones at the ends of the stems from late spring to early summer, which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its grassy leaves remain bluish-green in color with hints of silvery blue throughout the season.



Ohio Spiderwort in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Ohio Spiderwort is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

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, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Self-Seeding

Ohio Spiderwort is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Ohio Spiderwort 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 18 inches apart. 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! As this plant tends to go dormant in summer, it is best interplanted with late-season bloomers to hide the dying foliage.

This plant does best in partial shade to shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. This plant does not require much in the way of fertilizing once established. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in poor soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This species is native to parts of North America. It can be propagated by division.