Alabama Sunset Coleus

Solenostemon scutellarioides 'Alabama Sunset'



Alabama Sunset Coleus foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 12 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Description:

This stunning variety features bushy, copper red foliage with golden highlights; perfect for patio containers or in the garden; low maintenance; shade or sun, this colorful beauty will flourish all season long

Ornamental Features

Alabama Sunset Coleus' attractive serrated pointy leaves emerge green in spring, turning crimson in color with distinctive gold edges and tinges of coppery-bronze throughout the season on a plant with a mounded habit of growth.

Landscape Attributes

Alabama Sunset Coleus 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 relatively low maintenance plant. The flowers of this plant may actually detract from its ornamental features, so they can be removed as they appear. 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.

Alabama Sunset Coleus is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Alabama Sunset Coleus will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 12 inches apart. This fast-growing annual will normally live for one full growing season, needing replacement the following year.

This plant does best in partial shade to shade. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich 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 over the growing season to conserve soil moisture. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. 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.

Alabama Sunset Coleus is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. It can be used either as 'filler' or as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, depending on the height and form of the other plants used in the container planting. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.