Tickseed

Coreopsis verticillata

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: Threadleaf Coreopsis, Whorled Coreopsis

Description:

An attractive, mounded and drought tolerant plant that features fine, ferny foliage covered in cheerful, yellow flowers; blooms from early to late summer; an excellent addition to beds, borders or containers; thrives in poor, sandy soils



Tickseed flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Tickseed is smothered in stunning yellow daisy flowers with gold eyes at the ends of the stems from late spring to late summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its ferny leaves remain emerald green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Tickseed is an open herbaceous perennial with a mounded form. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

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

Tickseed is recommended for the following landscape applications;



Tickseed in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting



Tickseed in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Tickseed will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 15 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 is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. 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 poor soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is native to parts of North America. It can be propagated by division.

Tickseed is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used 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.