Prairie Rose

Rosa arkansana



Prairie Rose flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 18 inches

Spread: 5 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Description:

This native wild rose variety establishes from seeds distributed by wildlife (birds) and spread by underground rhizomes, forming colonies; white or rose pink single blooms appear in summer on short stems, followed by bright red hips; good for naturalizing

Ornamental Features

Prairie Rose features dainty pink flowers with white overtones and gold eyes at the ends of the branches from late spring to mid summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has attractive light green deciduous foliage. The serrated oval compound leaves are highly ornamental and turn buttery yellow in fall. The fruits are showy cherry red hips carried in abundance from mid summer to mid fall.

Landscape Attributes

Prairie Rose is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a ground-hugging habit of growth. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a high maintenance shrub that will require regular care and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting birds, bees and butterflies to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Suckering
- Spiny

Prairie Rose is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens

Planting & Growing

Prairie Rose will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. 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 does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. This plant does not require much in the way of fertilizing once established. 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 species is native to parts of North America.