Sundial Scarlet Portulaca

Portulaca grandiflora 'Sundial Scarlet'



Sundial Scarlet Portulaca flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 6 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 9 inches

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Moss Rose

Group/Class: Sundial Series

Description:

A vigorous, well branched selection featuring large, double blooms in exciting, bright colors; well suited for hot and arid climates; an excellent choice for garden beds, borders, hanging baskets and rock gardens; drought tolerant once established

Ornamental Features

Sundial Scarlet Portulaca features showy double scarlet frilly flowers at the ends of the stems from early summer to early fall. Its tiny succulent needle-like leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Sundial Scarlet Portulaca is an herbaceous annual 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 should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Sundial Scarlet Portulaca is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Sundial Scarlet Portulaca will grow to be only 6 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 9 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. This fast-growing annual will normally live for one full growing season, needing replacement the following year.

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in 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, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. 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.

Sundial Scarlet Portulaca is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers against which the thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.