East Bay Nursery

Purple Cyclamen

Cyclamen purpurascens



Purple Cyclamen flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 6 inches

Flower Height: 8 inches

Spread: 8 inches

Sunlight: ◐

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: European Cyclamen, Sow Bread

Description:

Beautiful nodding flowers rise above interesting green and silver foliage in summer; excellent for containers and rock gardens

Ornamental Features

Purple Cyclamen features showy lightly-scented nodding purple recurved flowers with pink overtones rising above the foliage in mid summer. Its attractive round leaves remain grayish green in color with showy silver variegation throughout the year.



Purple Cyclamen in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Purple Cyclamen is an herbaceous evergreen perennial with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. 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, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Purple Cyclamen is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Purple Cyclamen will grow to be only 6 inches tall at maturity extending to 8 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 8 inches. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant should be grown in a location with partial shade or which is shaded from the hot afternoon sun. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone over the growing season to conserve soil moisture. This species is not originally from North America.

Purple Cyclamen is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers and foliage against which the larger 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.