East Bay Nursery

Spanish Dagger

Yucca gloriosa



Spanish Dagger flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 24 inches

Flower Height: 8 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 6b

Other Names: Mound Lily

Description:

This sculptural plant bears long sword-like leaves of blue-green, maturing to dark green; beautiful tall spikes of nodding cream bell flowers in summer; good for dry sites and coastal areas; great for borders, patios and containers

Ornamental Features

Spanish Dagger features bold spikes of creamy white bell-shaped flowers rising above the foliage from mid to late summer. It has attractive bluish-green evergreen foliage. The sword-like leaves are highly ornamental and remain bluish-green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Spanish Dagger is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a more or less rounded form. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Spanish Dagger is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Spanish Dagger will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity extending to 8 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 3 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub 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. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in sandy soils, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is native to parts of North America.

Spanish Dagger makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use 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 grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.