East Bay Nursery

Vintage Red Stock

Matthiola incana 'Vintage Red'



Vintage Red Stock flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 15 inches

Flower Height: 20 inches

Spread: 14 inches

Spacing: 14 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 6b

Other Names: Brompton Stock

Group/Class: Vintage Series

Description:

A sturdy, and well branched dwarf biennial or tender perennial producing tall spikes of highly fragrant, red double flowers in late spring; plants tend to decline under mid-summer temperatures; a popular cut flower

Ornamental Features

Vintage Red Stock features showy spikes of fragrant double red flowers rising above the foliage from late spring to early summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its tomentose oval leaves remain grayish green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Vintage Red Stock is an herbaceous biennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. 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 is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Vintage Red Stock is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Vintage Red Stock will grow to be about 15 inches tall at maturity extending to 20 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 14 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 14 inches apart. It grows at a fast rate, and tends to be biennial, meaning that it puts on vegetative growth the first year, flowers the second, and then dies.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. 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 type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Vintage Red Stock is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use 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. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.