Mega Pazzaz™ Papaya Twist Portulaca

Portulaca oleracea 'Mega Pazzaz Papaya Twist'



Mega Pazzaz Papaya Twist Portulaca flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 16 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 14 inches

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 8b

Other Names: Moss Rose, Purslane

Group/Class: Pazzaz Series

Description:

A beautiful large series featuring a semi-trailing habit and extra large, intensely colored blooms; succulent green foliage creates a lovely addition to any hanging basket, container, border or garden landscape; heat and drought tolerant

Ornamental Features

Mega Pazzaz Papaya Twist Portulaca features showy cherry red cup-shaped flowers with gold eyes and yellow streaks at the ends of the stems from late spring to early fall. Its tiny succulent oval leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Mega Pazzaz Papaya Twist Portulaca is an herbaceous perennial with a trailing habit of growth, eventually spilling over the edges of hanging baskets and containers. 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 is a good choice for attracting butterflies and hummingbirds 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.

Mega Pazzaz Papaya Twist Portulaca is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Mega Pazzaz Papaya Twist Portulaca will grow to be about 16 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 14 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 3 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

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. 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 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.

Mega Pazzaz Papaya Twist Portulaca is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. Because of its trailing habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.