Snavely's GARDEN CORNER

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Sparkle White Gaura

Gaura lindheimeri 'Sparkle White'



Sparkle White Gaura flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 30 inches

Spread: 30 inches

Spacing: 24 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5b

Other Names: Butterfly Gaura, Wand Flower

Description:

Compact growth with delightful, arching panicles of starry white flowers that float above the graceful foliage; great texture and shape for a delicate, airy look; this fine native is a buttelfly magnet



Sparkle White Gaura flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Sparkle White Gaura features airy spikes of white star-shaped flowers rising above the foliage from late spring to early fall, which emerge from distinctive pink flower buds. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its narrow leaves remain dark green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Sparkle White Gaura is an open herbaceous perennial with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. 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 is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting 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.

Sparkle White Gaura is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- *Mass Planting*
- *Border Edging*
- *General Garden Use*
- *Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens*
- *Container Planting*

Planting & Growing

Sparkle White Gaura will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 24 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 8 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!



Sparkle White Gaura in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any 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 in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selection of a native North American species. 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.

Sparkle White Gaura 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. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.