Snavely's GARDEN CORNER

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Grape Expectations Coral Bells

Heuchera 'Grape Expectations'

Plant Height: 12 inches

Flower Height: 32 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 20 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Other Names: Coralbells, Alumroot

Description:

Dark purple foliage develops a silvery sheen in summer, then becomes reddish-purple in fall; tall scapes of dainty white flowers on dark purple stems in summer; amazing contrast to other plants; great versatility; keep soil moist in heat of summer



Grape Expectations Coral Bells foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Grape Expectations Coral Bells features dainty spikes of white bell-shaped flowers rising above the foliage from late spring to mid summer. Its attractive crinkled lobed leaves remain plum purple in color with showy silver variegation and tinges of dark red throughout the year. The deep purple stems can be quite attractive.

Landscape Attributes

Grape Expectations Coral Bells is a dense herbaceous evergreen perennial with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It is a good choice for attracting hummingbirds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Grape Expectations Coral Bells is recommended for the following landscape applications;



Grape Expectations Coral Bells in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Grape Expectations Coral Bells will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity extending to 32 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 24 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 20 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. 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 performs well in both full sun and full shade. However, you may want to keep it away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. 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 particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Grape Expectations Coral Bells 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.