Canadian Goldenrod

Solidago canadensis

Plant Height: 3 feet

Flower Height: 4 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Spacing: 4 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 3

Other Names: Canada Goldenrod

Description:

This common native species presents masses of golden yellow blooms from late summer to mid fall, on towering plants; will rapidly colonize areas by rhizomes and self-seeding, so soil containment and deadheading are advised

Ornamental Features

Canadian Goldenrod has masses of beautiful panicles of lightly-scented yellow flowers with gold overtones at the ends of the stems from late summer to mid fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its narrow leaves remain green in colour throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Canadian Goldenrod is an herbaceous perennial 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.



Canadian Goldenrod flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Canadian Goldenrod in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, 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. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Spreading
- Self-Seeding

Canadian Goldenrod is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting



Canadian Goldenrod flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Canadian Goldenrod will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity extending to 4 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 4 feet. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 4 feet apart. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 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 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. 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 species is native to parts of North America. It can be propagated by division.

Canadian Goldenrod 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. Be aware that in our climate, most plants cannot be expected to survive the winter if left in containers outdoors, and this plant is no exception. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.