Snowstorm Gaura

Gaura lindheimeri 'Snowstorm'



Snowstorm Gaura flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 16 inches

Flower Height: 24 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 18 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Butterfly Gaura

Description:

Delightful, arching panicles of white flowers splay over elegant foliage; great texture and vase shape for a delicate, airy look in the garden; this quality native is a buttelfly magnet



Snowstorm Gaura in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Snowstorm Gaura features airy spikes of white star-shaped flowers rising above the foliage from early summer to early fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its narrow leaves remain green in colour with hints of red throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Snowstorm Gaura is an open herbaceous annual 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.

Snowstorm Gaura is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Snowstorm Gaura will grow to be about 16 inches tall at maturity extending to 24 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 18 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. Although it's not a true annual, this fast-growing plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

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.

Snowstorm 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. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.