



Giant Fleece Flower (*Persicaria polymorpha*)

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Very showy plant with plumes (panicled racemes) of fluffy, white blooms atop tall, leafy stems. Blooms appear from late June through September. Use in a border or as a flowering hedge. May need support due to the height of the blooms.

Type	Herbaceous perennial
Hardiness Zone	4 - 9; although it survives nicely in zone 3
Sun	Full to partial sun
Bloom Time	June to September
Height	3 - 5 feet
Spread	3 - 4 feet
Tolerance	Drought and deer tolerant
Attracts	Hummingbirds; birds eat the seed heads in the fall

Soil and Site Recommendations

- Drainage: well-drained, moist soil
- Soil pH: neutral to acidic
- Type: suited to waterside plantings
- Placement considerations: specimen or group in borders, cottage gardens or naturalized areas

Planting Recommendations

- Type: plant or bare root division
- When to plant: spring
- Depth of planting: gauge depth based on soil level in pot as purchased
- Mulching: use leaves, hay or straw to help retain fertile soil
- Spacing: up to 5 feet, depending on how used; closer for border planting
- Spread: forms a spreading clump; center vegetation may die out if not divided every 3 - 4 years
- Division/transplant tips: divide in spring; overwater the day before; keep roots moist until planted



Maintenance

- Watering: water weekly; prefers moist soil but is drought tolerant
- Fertilization: add sandy soil, organic compost or well-rotted manure at planting
- Pinching/deadheading: unnecessary as flowers turn to reddish brown in the fall attracting birds.
- Annual maintenance: cut down to ground level in the fall after frost has killed the foliage, or in early spring before new growth has begun.

Common Problems

Diseases: nothing major

Insects: Japanese beetles

May cause skin irritation on contact.

Resources

www.missouribotanicalgarden.org

<http://www.pnwplants.wsu.edu>

<https://www.chicagobotanic.org/plantcollections/plantfinder>

Questions or problems: “What’s wrong with my plant” for information on garden pests and diseases:

<http://apps.extension.umn.edu/garden/diagnose/plant/>

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