



## Spiderwort (*Tradescantia occidentalis*)

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Showy native wildflower that grows in a clump and produces pretty 1" flowers that bloom from late May until September. Each flower only blooms for one day. Commonly found on the edge of woods, prairies, or roadside. Spiderwort is part of the Commelinaceae family. May be highly invasive by self-seeding.

Type	Perennial
Hardiness Zone	4 - 7
Sun	Full sun, part shade
Bloom Time	May - September
Height	10" - 24"
Spread	1'
Tolerance	Easy to grow
Attracts	Birds, bees and butterflies
Additional Features	Generally ignored by deer

### Soil and Site Recommendations

- Drainage: not fussy; will grow in moist or dry soil
- Soil pH: neutral to acidic, 5 - 6 pH but is not fussy
- Type: very adaptable; will grow in any type of soil
- Placement considerations: can be used for edging or specimen plant. Be aware it is highly invasive. Seeds will scatter and spiderwort may pop up throughout your garden.

### Planting Recommendations

- Type: seeds, cuttings or plants
- When to plant: spring or fall
- Depth of planting: sow seeds and cover lightly
- Spacing: 1' apart
- Spread: can become aggressive by self-seeding

### Maintenance

- Watering: average water needs
- Fertilization: not necessary



- Pinching/deadheading: deadheading will promote a second flowering in late summer
- Annual maintenance: nothing special as the plant will die back after frost. Cut back plants after flower but before seeds form to minimize reseeding problems.

### **Common Problems**

Disease: no serious problems

Insects: no serious problems

### **Resources**

<https://www.minnesotawildflowers.info/flower/spiderwort>

[https://bwsr.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/2019-06/Plant\\_O\\_Month\\_July\\_2019\\_Prairie\\_Spiderwort.pdf](https://bwsr.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/2019-06/Plant_O_Month_July_2019_Prairie_Spiderwort.pdf)

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu>

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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