

Tradescantia zebrina



GARDENS
a green gift for everyone

Genus: Tradescantia
Family: Commelinaceae
Order: Commelinales
Class: Liliopsida (Monocotyledons)
Phylum: Magnoliophyta (Angiosperms)

Key Facts:

Toxicity: Mildly toxic to pets if ingested, causing skin irritation and stomach upset.

Invasiveness: Can be invasive in some areas due to its rapid growth and ability to root from cuttings.

Plant Type: Perennial herbaceous plant.

Lifespan: Perennial.

Characteristics:

Plant Height: Typically 6-12 inches (15-30 cm) tall.

Spread: Can spread up to 12-24 inches (30-60 cm).

Leaf Color: Deep purple.

Bloom Time: Late spring to early fall.

Flower Size: Small, about 1 inch in diameter.

Flower Color: Pink to purple.



Distribution:

Origin: Native to Gulf Coast region of eastern Mexico.

Habitat: Found in subtropical and tropical regions.

Care:

Difficulty: Easy to grow and maintain.

Toughness: Quite tough and resilient, tolerates a range of conditions.

Maintenance: Low maintenance, though it benefits from occasional pruning.

Watering: Prefers evenly moist soil but is drought-tolerant once established. Water thoroughly when the top inch of soil is dry.

Pruning: Prune regularly to maintain shape and encourage bushier growth. Remove leggy or damaged stems.

Propagation: Easily propagated by stem cuttings. Simply cut a section of stem and place it in water or directly in soil.

Repotting: Repot when the plant becomes root-bound, usually every 1-2 years. Use a well-draining potting mix.

Conditions:

Temperature: Prefers temperatures between 60-85°F (15-29°C).

Hardiness Zone: USDA zones 8-11.

Sun Requirements: Thrives in full sun to partial shade. More sun results in deeper purple foliage.

Soil Type: Prefers well-draining soil, can tolerate a range of soil types.

Use: Ideal for ground cover, hanging baskets, and indoor ornamental plants.

Location: Suitable for both indoor and outdoor growth. Indoors, place near a bright window. Outdoors, plant in a sunny or partially shaded spot.

Pests and Diseases: Generally pest-resistant, but can occasionally be affected by aphids, spider mites, and whiteflies. Root rot can occur if overwatered.

