Town & Country gardens

Apricot Sprite Hyssop

Agastache aurantiaca 'Apricot Sprite'



Apricot Sprite Hyssop flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 20 inches

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 5

Other Names: Jewel Of The Sierra Madre, Orange Hummingbird Mint

Description:

This is a 'hot' native to Mexico and the southern U.S., has fragrant spikes of salmon-orange flowers; strong, compact form is great in borders and containers; for the best performance plant in fertile, well-drained soil in full sun

Ornamental Features

Apricot Sprite Hyssop features airy spikes of lightly-scented orange tubular flowers with salmon throats rising above the foliage from mid summer to early fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive fragrant narrow leaves remain grayish green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Apricot Sprite Hyssop is an open herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

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 bees, butterflies and hummingbirds 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.



Apricot Sprite Hyssop in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Apricot Sprite Hyssop is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Apricot Sprite Hyssop will grow to be about 30 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 20 inches. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 6 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 should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. It is particular about its soil conditions, with a strong preference for rich, alkaline soils, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selection of a native North American species. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Apricot Sprite Hyssop 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.

This plant is not reliably hardy in most areas of east Idaho. Please contact us for more information.