Juniper-Leaved Sea Thrift

Armeria juniperifolia



Juniper-Leaved Sea Thrift flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 2 inches

Flower Height: 4 inches

Spread: 6 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 2

Other Names: Spanish Thrift, Sea Pink

Description:

Lovely hot pink flowers on wiry stems, projecting from unique tufts of juniper-like needles; fine textured foliage and drought tolerance make this an excellent addition to rock gardens and xeriscapes



Juniper-Leaved Sea Thrift in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Juniper-Leaved Sea Thrift has masses of beautiful balls of pink flowers at the ends of the stems from mid spring to early summer, which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its tiny needle-like leaves remain grayish green in color throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Juniper-Leaved Sea Thrift is a dense herbaceous evergreen perennial with a mounded form. 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 should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Juniper-Leaved Sea Thrift is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting

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Planting & Growing

Juniper-Leaved Sea Thrift will grow to be only 2 inches tall at maturity extending to 4 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 6 inches. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. 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 not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.

Juniper-Leaved Sea Thrift is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers against which the thriller plants stand out. 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.