Echter's Nursery & Garden Center

5150 Garrison St.
Arvada, CO, 80002
phone: 303-424-7979
ggm@echters.com
www.echters.com

Red Birds In A Tree

Red Birds In A Tree

Scrophularia macrantha

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 20 inches

Spacing: 18 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Description:

An attractive and unusual variety with an upright habit and fresh deep green foliage; cherry red flowers that resemble small birds cover the plant from late spring until frost; drought tolerant once established; great for beds, borders, or containers

Ornamental Features

Red Birds In A Tree's serrated pointy leaves remain green in color throughout the season on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth.

Landscape Attributes

Red Birds In A Tree is an 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 should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It is a good choice for attracting bees 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.

Red Birds In A Tree is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Red Birds In A Tree flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Red Birds In A Tree in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Red Birds In A Tree will grow to be about 30 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 20 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 18 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 15 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 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. This plant does not require much in the way of fertilizing once established. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in sandy soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This species is native to parts of North America. It can be propagated by division.

Red Birds In A Tree 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.



Red Birds In A Tree flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder