Echter's Nursery & Garden Center

5150 Garrison St.
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Small Soapweed

Small Soapweed

Yucca glauca

Plant Height: 24 inches

Flower Height: 4 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 3b

Description:

An unusual plant, more reminiscent of a cactus than a shrub, with spear-like leaves radiating from the center and beautiful tall spikes of nodding white flowers in summer; good for dry sites, best used in a southwestern landscape theme, surprisingly hardy

Ornamental Features

Small Soapweed features bold spikes of creamy white bell-shaped flowers rising above the foliage from mid to late summer. It has attractive bluish-green evergreen foliage. The sword-like leaves are highly ornamental and remain bluish-green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Small Soapweed is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a more or less rounded form. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Spiny

Small Soapweed is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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



Small Soapweed flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Small Soapweed in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Small Soapweed will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity extending to 4 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 3 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.



Small Soapweed
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

This shrub 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 not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is native to parts of North America.

Small Soapweed makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used 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 grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.