



Cornflower

Centaurea dealbata

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Ornamental Features

Cornflower features unusual pink lacecap flowers at the ends of the stems from early to mid summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its oval leaves remain grayish green in color throughout the season. The fruit is not ornamentally significant.

Landscape Attributes

Cornflower is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Self-Seeding

Cornflower is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Cornflower will grow to be about 30 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. 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.



Cornflower flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



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This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under typical garden conditions. 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 highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This species is not originally from North America.