

**Hardy Ice Plant***Delosperma congestum*

Plant Height: 2 inches

Flower Height: 3 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 5a

Other Names: Gold Nugget Ice Plant

Description:

Low growing carpet-like, succulent, native to South Africa but amazingly hardy in North America; bright yellow daisy-like flowers cover the ground; green foliage has burgundy overtones in fall; perfect for xeriscapes, rock gardens, screens and sandy soils

Ornamental Features

Hardy Ice Plant features showy yellow daisy flowers with gold eyes and a white ring rising above the foliage from early to late summer. Its attractive small succulent round leaves are light green in colour. As an added bonus, the foliage turns a gorgeous burgundy in the fall.

Landscape Attributes

Hardy Ice Plant is an herbaceous evergreen perennial with a ground-hugging 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 to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Hardy Ice Plant is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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



Hardy Ice Plant flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Hardy Ice Plant will grow to be only 2 inches tall at maturity extending to 3 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 24 inches. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 years. As an evergreen 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 pH, but grows best in sandy soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by cuttings.