Sweet Woodruff

Galium odoratum

Height: 8 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 2b

Other Names: Asperula

Description:

A vigorous and spreading groundcover for a woodland or shade setting; attractive whorled foliage and tiny white flowers in spring; prefers organic, slightly acidic soils; tough yet quite delicate-looking, putty in the hands of a talented garden designer

Ornamental Features

Sweet Woodruff features dainty lightly-scented white star-shaped flowers at the ends of the stems in mid spring. Its fragrant narrow leaves remain light green in colour throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Sweet Woodruff is a dense herbaceous evergreen perennial with a ground-hugging habit of growth. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;



Sweet Woodruff in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Sweet Woodruff flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ottawa West
2079 Carp Road
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
K2S 1B9
Telephone: +1 613 836 6880

Ottawa East
1390 Windmill Lane
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
K1B 4V5
Toll Free: +1 800 267 1922
Telephone: +1 613 741 4430

Brockville
3043 County Rd. 29
Brockville, Ontario, Canada
K6V 5T4
Telephone: +1 613 341 9343

- Spreading

Sweet Woodruff is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Groundcover

Planting & Growing

Sweet Woodruff will grow to be about 8 inches tall at maturity, 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 10 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.



Sweet Woodruff in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

This plant does best in partial shade to shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for acidic soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.