Whopper® Red Bronze Leaf Begonia

Begonia 'Whopper Red Bronze Leaf'

Height: 30 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 20 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Semperflorens, Fibrous

Group/Class: Wax Begonia

Description:

Beautiful big, vigorous plants present bright, extra large flower over deep bronze foliage, blooming throughout the entire season; mounded habit, perfect for adding color to shady patio containers or garden landscapes; deadhead to promote new blooms

Ornamental Features

Whopper Red Bronze Leaf Begonia features dainty clusters of red orchid-like flowers with yellow throats at the ends of the stems from mid spring to mid fall. Its attractive glossy heart-shaped leaves remain coppery-bronze in color throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Whopper Red Bronze Leaf Begonia is an herbaceous annual with a mounded form. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.



Whopper Red Bronze Leaf Begonia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Whopper Red Bronze Leaf Begonia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

This is a high maintenance plant that will require regular care and upkeep, and usually looks its best without pruning, although it will tolerate pruning. 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;

- Insects
- Disease

Whopper Red Bronze Leaf Begonia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets



Whopper Red Bronze Leaf Begonia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Whopper Red Bronze Leaf Begonia will grow to be about 30 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 20 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. Although it's not a true annual, this plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant does best in partial shade to shade. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone over the growing season to conserve soil moisture. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. It can be propagated by cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Whopper Red Bronze Leaf Begonia is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. It can be used either as 'filler' or as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, depending on the height and form of the other plants used in the container planting. 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.