String Of Dolphins

Senecio peregrinus



String Of Dolphins foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 4 inches

Spread: 30 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 8b

Other Names: syn. Senecio hippogriff

Description:

A spectacular and highly unusual trailing succulent with shiny green foliage that is shaped like tiny dolphins, strung along the cascading branches; a dramatic accent when spilling over the edges of containers and hanging baskets

Ornamental Features

String Of Dolphins' attractive succulent lobed leaves remain bluish-green in color with hints of silver throughout the year on a plant with a trailing habit of growth. The light green stems can be quite attractive.

Landscape Attributes

String Of Dolphins is an herbaceous evergreen perennial with a trailing habit of growth, eventually spilling over the edges of hanging baskets and containers. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and usually looks its best without pruning, although it will tolerate pruning. It has no significant negative characteristics.

String Of Dolphins is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets

Planting & Growing

String Of Dolphins will grow to be only 4 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 inches. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a medium 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.

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 type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets.

String Of Dolphins is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. Because of its trailing habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden. Be aware that in our climate, this plant may be too tender to survive the winter if left outdoors in a container. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.