FAMILY TREE NURSERY

Flowering Tobacco

Nicotiana alata



Flowering Tobacco flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 3 feet

Flower Height: 4 feet

Spread: 15 inches

Spacing: 12 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Jasmine Tobacco, syn. Nicotiana affinis

Description:

This tall growing variety produces spikes of white blooms from early summer, through fall; very fragrant; a great choice for beds, borders, or containers

Ornamental Features

Flowering Tobacco features showy spikes of fragrant white star-shaped flowers with creamy white overtones rising above the foliage from early summer to mid fall. Its pointy leaves remain dark green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Flowering Tobacco is a dense herbaceous annual 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 should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. It is a good choice for attracting hummingbirds to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Flowering Tobacco is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

8424 Farley St.
Overland Park, KS 66212
913.642.6503

7036 Nieman
Shawnee, KS 66203
913.631.6121

830 W Liberty Dr.
Liberty, MO 64068
816.781.0001

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Planting & Growing

Flowering Tobacco will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity extending to 4 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 15 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 12 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 fast-growing 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 full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. 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, 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.

Flowering Tobacco is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.