Wannemaker's
HOME AND GARDEN

1940 Ogden Ave
Downers Grove, IL
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Blackberry Merlot Hibiscus

Hibiscus 'Blackberry Merlot'



Blackberry Merlot Hibiscus flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 4 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Other Names: Rose Mallow, Hardy Hibiscus

Description:

A bold perennial with its large, deep velvety red blooms, perfect for adding a tropical look or accenting end of season gardens; deep green leaves set the background on this upright selection; fast growing; blooms midsummer to early fall

Ornamental Features

Blackberry Merlot Hibiscus features bold dark red round flowers at the ends of the stems from mid summer to early fall. Its large serrated pointy leaves remain dark green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Blackberry Merlot Hibiscus is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other garden plants with finer foliage.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Insects
- Self-Seeding

Blackberry Merlot Hibiscus is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens

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Planting & Growing

Blackberry Merlot Hibiscus will grow to be about 4 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. To help this plant achive its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. 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. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. 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.