TAGAWA gardens

Sweet Woodruff

Galium odoratum

Height: 8 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Asperula

Description:

A vigorous and spreading groundcover for a woodland or shade setting; attractive whorled foliage and tiny white flowers in spring; tough yet quite delicate-looking.

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 color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Sweet Woodruff is a dense herbaceous 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 is a relatively low maintenance plant, 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;

- Spreading

Sweet Woodruff is recommended for the following landscape applications;



Sweet Woodruff in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Sweet Woodruff flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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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 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!



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 or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is native to parts of North America. It can be propagated by division.