The Flower Bin
Garden Center & Nursery & Gift House
1805 Nelson Road
Longmont, CO 80501
Phone: 303-772-3454
www.theflowerbin.net

Golden Candles

Thermopsis lupinoides



Golden Candles flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 24 inches

Flower Height: 3 feet

Spread: 30 inches

Spacing: 24 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 3

Other Names: Siberian Lupine, Asian Thermopsis

Description:

Clusters of bright yellow buds emerge in early spring and mature into golden-yellow spires rising above attractive, lupine-like foliage; vigorous, adaptable, and very cold hardy; perfect for xeric borders; an enjoyable burst of spring color

Ornamental Features

Golden Candles has masses of beautiful spikes of yellow pea-like flowers with gold overtones rising above the foliage from mid to late spring, which emerge from distinctive buttery yellow flower buds, and which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its oval compound leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Golden Candles is an herbaceous perennial with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. 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 is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies 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.

Golden Candles is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting

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Planting & Growing

Golden Candles will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity extending to 3 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 30 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 24 inches apart. It grows at a medium 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! As this plant tends to go dormant in summer, it is best interplanted with late-season bloomers to hide the dying foliage.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. This plant should not require much in the way of fertilizing once established, although it may appreciate a shot of general-purpose fertilizer from time to time early in the growing season. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in sandy soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America.

Golden Candles 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. 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.