Vesuvius Campion

Lychnis x arkwrightii 'Vesuvius'



Vesuvius Campion flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 12 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 10 inches

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: Arkwright Campion

Ornamental Features

Vesuvius Campion has masses of beautiful orange star-shaped flowers at the ends of the stems from early to mid summer, which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its attractive pointy leaves emerge dark brown in spring, turning dark green in color with distinctive deep purple edges throughout the season. The black stems are very colorful and add to the overall interest of the plant.



Vesuvius Campion flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Vesuvius Campion is an herbaceous perennial 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 is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Vesuvius Campion is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Vesuvius Campion will grow to be about 10 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 10 inches apart. It grows at a medium 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 should only be grown in full sunlight. 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 particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Vesuvius Campion is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers and foliage against which the larger thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.