Chocolate Covered Cherry Coleus

Solenostemon scutellarioides 'Chocolate Covered Cherry'

Height: 12 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 10 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 9



Chocolate Covered Cherry Coleus foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Chocolate Covered Cherry Coleus foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Chocolate Covered Cherry Coleus' attractive serrated pointy leaves remain cherry red in color with distinctive light green edges and tinges of crimson throughout the year on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth.

Landscape Attributes

Chocolate Covered Cherry Coleus is an herbaceous evergreen 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 is a relatively low maintenance plant. The flowers of this plant may actually detract from its ornamental features, so they can be removed as they appear. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Chocolate Covered Cherry Coleus is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Chocolate Covered Cherry Coleus will grow to be about 12 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 fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant does best in a location that gets morning sunlight but is shaded from the hot afternoon sun, although it will also grow in full shade. Keep it away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone over the growing season to conserve soil moisture. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. 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.



Chocolate Covered Cherry Coleus foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Chocolate Covered Cherry Coleus is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a canvas of 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.