



## Garlic Chives Allium tuberosum

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: Chinese Chives; Flowering Onion

## **Ornamental Features**

Garlic Chives has masses of beautiful clusters of lightly-scented white star-shaped flowers at the ends of the stems from mid summer to mid fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its grassy leaves remain grayish green in colour throughout the season. The green fruits are held in clusters.

## **Landscape Attributes**

Garlic Chives is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a high maintenance plant that will require regular care and upkeep, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Invasive
- Self-Seeding

Garlic Chives is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- General Garden Use
- Herb Gardens



Garlic Chives in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Garlic Chives flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



## **Planting & Growing**

Garlic Chives will grow to be about 23 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 11 inches. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 8 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 does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.