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Pink Zebra Ornamental Corn

Zea mays 'Pink Zebra'

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 18 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Description:

Small ears of corn with purple kernels and tassels grow on stunning upright stalks of green and white variegated leaves; changes to rosy pinks and purples in cooler conditions, perfect for adding interest to mixed autumnal containers and gardens

Ornamental Features

Pink Zebra Ornamental Corn is primarily grown for its highly ornamental fruit. The fruits are showy purple pods with rose variegation, which are carried in abundance from mid summer to early fall. Its attractive large sword-like leaves remain green in color with prominent creamy white stripes and tinges of rose throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Pink Zebra Ornamental Corn is an open herbaceous annual with a shapely form and gracefully arching foliage. Its wonderfully bold, coarse texture can be very effective in a balanced garden composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should never be pruned except to remove any dieback, as it tends not to take pruning well. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Pink Zebra Ornamental Corn is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Pink Zebra Ornamental Corn
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Pink Zebra Ornamental Corn foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



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Planting & Growing

Pink Zebra Ornamental Corn will grow to be about 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 18 inches apart. It tends to be leggy, with a typical clearance of 2 feet from the ground, and should be underplanted with lower-growing perennials. This fast-growing annual will normally live for one full growing season, needing replacement the following year.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selection of a native North American species.

Pink Zebra Ornamental Corn is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used 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.



*Pink Zebra Ornamental Corn foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

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