

ENVIRONMENTAL HORTICULTURE

Environmental Horticulture #EH422



SEDUM

PRODUCTION AND CONSUMER CARE

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INTRODUCTION

- Common name: Stonecrop
- Scientific name: *Sedum sp.*
- Native to areas throughout the Northern Hemisphere
- Larger varieties, called showy sedums, grow in compact clumps 18-24'' tall; others creep along the ground and only reach 4-6'' in height
- Leaves are succulent, oval-shaped, and range from ¼-3'' in length, depending on the variety
- Showy sedums have tiny star-shaped flowers that bloom in clusters 3-6'' across at the ends of the stems
- Showy sedum flowers bloom from August to first frost; other varieties bloom early in summer
- Hardy in zones 3-10

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

- Prefers full sun but will tolerate light shade
- Thrives in any dry, well-drained media
- Water only during periods of severe drought; soggy soil will kill plants
- Feed with a handful of all-purpose granular fertilizer once in spring; do not overfeed
- Use a two-inch layer of mulch, but do not allow the mulch to touch plant stems

PROPAGATION

- Easily propagated from stem or leaf cuttings

- Simply detach a leaf and insert into fresh media
- Can also be propagated from seed and by dividing tuberous roots

DISORDERS

- Crown rot (*Sclerotium rolfsii*)
 - Plants decay at the soil line
 - Remove infected plants and surrounding soil
- Leaf blotch (*Botrytis sp.*)
 - Blotches form on leaves and flowers
 - Foliage eventually turns brown and dies
 - Remove infected foliage
 - Destroy badly infected plants
- Powdery mildew (*Erysiphe cichoracearum*)
 - White coating appears on leaves
 - Leaves wilt, brown, and die
 - Reduce humidity and remove infected foliage
- Aphids
 - Feed on tender new shoots and stems
 - Leaves turn yellow or brown and wilt
 - Spray with water or an insecticidal soap

CONSUMER CARE

- Showy sedums perform well in a perennial border or in rock gardens
- Other varieties can be used as groundcovers
- Showy sedums make excellent cut flowers and container plants

CULTIVARS AND SPECIES

- *Sedum floriferum*
 - ‘Weihenstephaner Gold’: yellow flowers
- *Sedum kamtschaticum*
 - ‘Variegatum’: orange-yellow flowers, green foliage tinged with white and pink
- *Sedum reflexum*
 - ‘Blue Spruce’: bright blue, needle-like foliage, yellow flowers
- *Sedum rupestre*
 - ‘Angelina’: yellow flowers, chartreuse-yellow foliage
- *Sedum spectabile*
 - ‘Autumn Fire’: deep rich red flowers
 - ‘Autumn Joy’: light pink to dark red flowers
- *Sedum spurium*
 - ‘Fuldaglut’: red flowers with red foliage
 - ‘Tricolor’: green, white, and pink foliage
 - ‘Vera Jameson’: pale pink flowers, deep purple foliage

References

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sedum>
<http://www.yardener.com/PlantingSedum.html>
http://www.floridata.com/ref/s/sedum_spec.cfm

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