



Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

Gomphrena globosa¹

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Introduction

Globe Amaranth produces small, globe-shaped flowers in shades of purple, pink, yellow or white (Fig. 1). The purple form is most common in retail nurseries. Most horticulturists utilize Globe Amaranth in a mass planting spacing them 12 to 18 inches apart. Others use them as small specimens in rock gardens or plant them in containers. They are also attractive planted in a row along a walk or patio as an edging plant. Flowers can be dried for indoor use if cut just before they are fully opened. The plant grows 18 inches tall, and prefers full sun, and a moderately dry soil. Globe Amaranth is resistant to heat and should not be over watered. It provides bright color to a garden or landscape where irrigation will be limited.

General Information

Scientific name: *Gomphrena globosa*

Pronunciation: gom-FREE-nuh gloe-BOE-suh

Common name(s): Globe Amaranth

Family: *Amaranthaceae*

Plant type: annual

USDA hardiness zones: all zones (Fig. 2)

Planting month for zone 7: Jun; Jul; Aug

Planting month for zone 8: May; Jun; Jul; Aug; Sep

Planting month for zone 9: Apr; May; Jun; Jul; Aug; Sep

Origin: not native to North America

Uses: border; edging; mass planting

Availability: generally available in many areas within its hardiness range



Figure 1. Globe Amaranth.

Description

Height: 1 to 2 feet

Spread: .5 to 1 feet

Plant habit: round

Plant density: dense

Growth rate: slow

Texture: medium

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Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

Foliage

Leaf arrangement: opposite/subopposite
Leaf type: simple
Leaf margin: entire
Leaf shape: oblong
Leaf venation: not applicable
Leaf type and persistence: not applicable
Leaf blade length: 2 to 4 inches
Leaf color: green
Fall color: not applicable
Fall characteristic: not applicable

Flower

Flower color: white; pink; purple; yellow
Flower characteristic: showy

Fruit

Fruit shape: no fruit
Fruit length: no fruit
Fruit cover: no fruit
Fruit color: not applicable
Fruit characteristic: inconspicuous and not showy

Trunk and Branches

Trunk/bark/branches: not applicable
Current year stem/twig color: green
Current year stem/twig thickness: medium

Culture

Light requirement: plant grows in full sun
Soil tolerances: acidic; sand; loam; clay;
Drought tolerance: moderate
Soil salt tolerances: unknown
Plant spacing: 12 to 18 inches

Other

Roots: not applicable
Winter interest: not applicable
Outstanding plant: not particularly outstanding
Invasive potential: not known to be invasive
Pest resistance: long-term health usually not affected by pests

Use and Management

Propagation is by seed planted directly into the garden or started early indoors.

Pests and Diseases

Globe Amaranth is free of most pest and disease problems.