

Botanical Name: Freesia laxa (Lapeirousia laxa)

Common Name: Woodland painted petals

Type of Plant: monocot: perennial Character deciduous corm

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape Small clumping plant with irregular spreading leaves to 4"  
long; forms a loose clump of corms and seedlings

Height to 6" Spread to 12" Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun to partial shade

Soil prefers a well-drained soil; tolerates a wide range

Hardiness hardy, zones 5-24

Morphology:

Leaves small grassy leaves 4" to 6" long, emerging at different  
angles forming a loose clump

Flowers rosy pink flowers with red centers, to 1/2" across forming  
in small racemes

Fruit small 3-valved capsule, seeds freely

Propagation: seed, division

Usage: small rock garden subject, near borders and walkways; good  
in pots and raised planters; one of the best small-scale bulbs for southern  
California

Landscape Care:

Watering likes average water during growth; tolerates no care when  
dormant during summer and fall; accepts some summer water without rotting

Fertilizing slow-release at planting

Pruning remove dead leaves in late spring or summer

Pests/Diseases none

Special Conditions Recently reclassified from Lapeirousia to Freesia

Origin: South Africa Family: Iridaceae