

Botanical Name: Helleborus foetidus

Common Name: Bear's foot hellebore

Type of Plant: dicot: perennial Family Ranunculaceae

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape clumping, rounded mass with dark, narrow foliage and dense clusters of pinkish green flowers held above foliage

Height to 30" Spread to 30" Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors partial shade to sunny areas along the coast

Soil prefers well-drained, well-amended soils; likes alkaline soil

Hardiness Hardy: zones 2-9, 14-24

Morphology:

Leaves Palmately compound, dark green, with very narrow elliptical leaflets, to 6"long; foliage has bad odor when crushed or disturbed

Flowers cup-like, yellow-green flowers with pinkish tinge at edges; usually form in late winter or early spring

Fruit small capsule; may self sow in favorable location

Propagation: seed

Usage: excellent perennial under shade trees, mixed with other shade perennials; sometimes used for cut flowers; used for distinctive foliage and heavy flower display

Landscape Care:

Watering likes regular watering, does not tolerate drought

Fertilizing balanced fertilizer in spring and fall

Pruning cut back branches which have bloomed down to the ground

Pests/Diseases none significant

Other _____

Origin: Western Europe