

Botanical Name: Tradescantia virginiana

Common Name: Spiderwort

Type of Plant: monocot: perennial Family Commelinaceae

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape upright, loose, clumping plant with arching, grasslike soft leaves  
to 18" long; flower clusters are usually held near foliage; deciduous in winter

Height to 2 ft. Spread to 3 ft. Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors part shade to full shade

Soil prefers a well amended soil, takes wet conditions

Hardiness hardy (all zones)

Morphology:

Leaves soft, strap-like leaves to 18" long, folded along midrib, to 1" long  
on jointed stems

Flowers 3-petaled flowers to 1" across, in blues, lavenders, pinks or whites  
usually flat-faced; flowers are short-lived, but bloom nearly all summer

Fruit small capsule

Propagation: division, stem cuttings

Usage: shade loving plants good for wet areas; good source of shade color;  
good in tropical or temperate theme gardens in moist, shaded areas

Landscape Care:

Watering needs frequent watering during active growth; can be allowed to  
overwinter in normal garden conditions without extra watering

Fertilizing balanced, slow-release each spring

Pruning plants can be cut to ground when dormant; will re-sprout in spring

Pests/Diseases none major

Other

Origin: Eastern United States