SPIDER FLOWER OR CLEOME DWARF

*Cleome hassleriana* 'Sparkler Mix Hybrid'

### Characteristics

- **Type:** Annual
- **Zone:** 9 to 10
- **Height:** 3 to 4 feet
- **Width:** 12 Inches
- **Bloom Time:** June to frost
- **Bloom:** red, white, lavender, and blush-pink
- **Sun:** Full sun to part shade
- **Water:** Moist, well-drained
- **Maintenance:** Low
- **Flower:** Showy, 4 to 6 Inches
- **Attracts:** Hummingbirds, Butterflies
- **Resists:** Heat
- **Tolerate:** Rabbit, Drought

### Culture

As a hybrid, this Cleome series is genetically more dwarf, resulting in a plant habit about 1/2 to 2/3 the size of traditional garden cleome. The bushy, well-branched plants grow uniformly in the garden, thus making it a great focal point in gardens, or as a landscape planting. Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soils in full sun. Tolerates light shade. Best with consistent watering during the growing season. Once established, plants tolerate heat and drought.

### Noteworthy Characteristics

The was the first *hybrid* dwarf *Cleome hassleriana*. It has the same airy blooms and bushy habit of Cleome. This dwarf hybrid Spider Flower mix produces an abundance of blooms over a very long season on plants that don't exceed 4 feet tall. They hold well on the plant and are wonderfully long-lasting as cut flowers. The dark green foliage makes an attractive back drop for the big, fluffy blooms. This plant begins flowering as soon as the hot weather arrives and doesn't quit until the temperature drops in fall. A sun-lover, it is at home in the baking-hot border, bed, or patio, and once established is quite tolerant of dry conditions. Water it well during growth, though, to get it off to a good start.

### Problems

No serious insect or disease problems. Watch for aphids, spider mites and whiteflies. Susceptible to mildew and rust.

### Garden Uses

Best in groups or massed. Beds, borders, foundations, large containers. Good addition to butterfly gardens.