

YARROW 'MOONSHINE'

Achillea 'Moonshine'



Characteristics

- Type: Perennial
- Zone: 3 to 8
- Height: 1.00 to 2.00 feet
- Spread: 0.75 to 1.00 feet
- Bloom Time: June to September
- Bloom Description: Bright yellow
- Sun: Full sun
- Water: Dry to medium
- Maintenance: Medium
- Flower: Showy, Good Cut, Good Dried
- Leaf: Fragrant
- Tolerate: Deer, Drought, Dry Soil

Culture

Best grown in lean, dry to medium moisture, well-drained sandy loams in full sun. Does well in average garden soils and tolerates poor soils as long as drainage is good. Avoid heavy clays and moist, rich, fertile soils. Plants are best sited in locations protected from strong winds. Deadhead spent flower heads to lateral buds to promote additional bloom. Cut plants back to basal leaves after flowering to tidy the planting and to encourage new foliage growth and a possible additional fall bloom. Divide clumps as needed (every 3-4 years) to reinvigorate plantings.

Noteworthy Characteristics

Achillea is a genus of about 85 species of mostly herbaceous perennial from the Northern Hemisphere. Several hybrids are available. The genus name *Achillea* refers to Achilles, hero of the Trojan Wars in Greek mythology, who used the plant medicinally to stop bleeding and to heal the wounds of his soldiers. 'Moonshine' (*A. clypeolata* x *A. 'Taygetea'*) is an upright, clump-forming, compact hybrid yarrow which is noted for its deeply-dissected, fern-like, aromatic, silvery to gray-green foliage and its tiny, long-lasting, bright lemon-yellow flowers which appear in dense, flattened, compound corymbs (to 2-3" across) throughout the summer on stiff, erect stems typically rising 1-2' tall. This plant resembles *A. 'Coronation Gold'* except it is much smaller and the flowers are a lighter yellow.

Problems

'Moonshine' is susceptible to a number of foliar diseases and tends to melt out by mid to late summer in hot and humid southern climates. Botrytis, stem rot, powdery mildew and rust are occasional disease problems. Taller plants may need staking, particularly if grown in less than full sun. Strong summer rain storms with high winds can flatten exposed plantings. Does poorly in wet sites or poorly drained soil.

Garden Uses

Specimen, group or mass. Borders. Cottage gardens, wild gardens, naturalized areas or meadows.

Courtesy of Missouri Botanical Society Plant Finder