



Tricyrtis 'Taipei Silk'

"Toad Lily"
(PPAF)
Arctic Orchid™

CARING AND SHARING - GARDEN BENEFITS AND CARE

Oriental mystique comes to America's shaded gardens in the intriguing, exotic blooms of *Tricyrtis*, often compared to orchids. The multi-colored flowers of 'Taipei Silk' are borne gracefully aloft in amazing profusion on slender, sinuous stems. In August, flowering begins in earnest. From September on, multiple flower heads are produced constantly until frost ends the show. Glistening purple blooms are highlighted with paler purple and white, further enhanced by a light freckling of reddish spots.

Bloom Season & Habit. 'Taipei Silk' recommended itself to breeder Darrell Probst in several categories. Its dense, erect stands of clean, glossy green foliage are attractive from spring on. It produces larger flowers, and more of them, than most *Tricyrtis* varieties. Flowering is continuous from August through September, often extending through October or until hard frost.

Location. Plant in partial shade. 'Taipei Silk's' charming, intricate flowers are best appreciated close up. Place it where they may be readily observed by visitors to the garden. USDA Hardiness Zones 6 (5 with protection) to 9. AHS Heat Zones 9 to 6.

Size. 25 inches tall by 24 inches wide. Plant up to two plants per square yard, or individually as specimens.

Culture. *Tricyrtis* performs best in moist soils rich in organic matter. No staking or special care is generally required as long as sufficient water is available.

KNOWING AND GROWING - TIPS FOR PRODUCERS

Best grown in medium to large pots, outdoors under shade cloth or in greenhouses with 30- to 50-percent light reduction, depending on latitude and natural light levels. Inadequate irrigation will stunt growth.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS - HISTORY AND COMPANION PLANTS

The genus *Tricyrtis* is still new to many gardeners. As North American landscapes mature and become more shaded, plants that thrive in filtered light become more valuable. Good companions include *Alstroemeria*, *Anemone* 'Party Dress', *Astilbe* 'Sheila Haxton', *Heucherella* 'Bridget Bloom' and 'Quicksilver', and *Hosta*.

Bred by Darrell Probst, Hubbardston, Mass.

