



# BUCHANAN'S

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# NATIVE PLANTS



## Wizard Scarlet Coleus

*Solenostemon scutellarioides* 'Wizard Scarlet'

Height: 14 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 9 inches

Sunlight: ● ●

Hardiness Zone: 9b

Group/Class: Wizard Series



*Wizard Scarlet Coleus foliage*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

### Ornamental Features

Wizard Scarlet Coleus' attractive serrated pointy leaves remain scarlet in color with distinctive lemon yellow edges throughout the year. Neither the flowers nor the fruit are ornamentally significant.

### Landscape Attributes

Wizard Scarlet Coleus is an herbaceous evergreen perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant. The flowers of this plant may actually detract from its ornamental features, so they can be removed as they appear. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Wizard Scarlet Coleus is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets

### Planting & Growing

Wizard Scarlet Coleus will grow to be about 14 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 9 inches apart. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 years.



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This plant does best in partial shade to shade. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone over the growing season to conserve soil moisture. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Wizard Scarlet Coleus is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a canvas of foliage against which the larger thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.