

Star-of-Bethlehem

(Ornithogalum umbellatum)

If you have a spot in the garden where absolutely nothing will grow, don't despair. Star-of-Bethlehem will thrive even under the most adverse conditions. It fills in the mid-spring garden with a carpet of white, six-petaled, star-shaped flowers that bloom in clusters on stems about 6 inches high. Each flower is about 1/2 to 1 inch across, with a thin green stripe on the outside of each petal. Foliage on the star-of-Bethlehem is very dense and grassy.

Soil: Average to poor

Light: Full sun to part shade

Planting Depth: 4 inches

Planting Distance: 3 to 4 inches

Comments

Another of star-of-Bethlehem's attributes is its long lasting qualities as a cut flower. The contrast between the white flowers and the black center with yellow stamens is most attractive.