

Heath

(Erica sp.)

Cross-leaved

(E. tetralix)

Small, rose-colored flowers in 1- to 3-inch clusters appear in midsummer. Leaves are hairy, gray, and needlelike.

Zone: 4

Light and Soil: Full sun. Moist, well-drained, acid soil.

Height: 2'

Comments

Use in beds, borders, or rock gardens. More cold-hardy than other varieties. Mulch for best results. Prune in early spring.

Darley

(E. x darleyensis)

Small, lilac-colored flowers appear in late fall and continue through spring. Leaves are bright green and needlelike.

Zone: 6

Light and Soil: Full sun. Moist, well-drained, acid soil.

Height: 2'

Comments

Use in beds, borders, and rock gardens. Prune fading flower heads. More vigorous than other species. Mulch for best results.

Spring

(E. carnea)

Small, rose-colored flowers appear in small 1- to 3-inch clusters in early spring. Other varieties are pink, red, and white. Foliage is lustrous green and needlelike.

Zone: 6

Light and Soil: Full sun. Moist, well-drained, acid soil.

Height: 1'

Comments

Use in beds, borders, and rock gardens. Prune after flowers fade to encourage more vigorous growth. Mulch for best results.

Twisted

(E. cinerea)

Small flowers in 2- to 4-inch clusters appear in early summer. Foliage is lustrous green and needlelike. Colors include rose, pink, white, and purple.

Zone: 6

Light and Soil: Full sun. Moist, well-drained, acid soil.

Height: 2'

Comments

Use in beds, borders, and rock gardens. Not so hardy as other varieties. Mulch for best results. Prune after flowers fade to encourage more vigorous growth.