

Kerria

(Kerria japonica)

Kerria is available in both single- and double-flowering varieties, but the double form clearly makes the superior plant. In mid-spring, the plant is clothed with a multitude of golden-yellow blooms about 1 1/2 inches across. The double flowers, sometimes called globe flowers, are densely petaled and balllike. The slightly arching branches remain bright green all winter long. Leaves are triangular, serrated, and 2 to 4 inches long, turning yellow before falling in autumn. Kerria is 4 to 6 feet tall at maturity.

Soil: Average

Light: Part shade; full sun in areas where it remains cool.

Zone: 4

Comments

Kerria tends to spawn suckers easily, losing its shrublike appearance. Keep pruned to shape.