

# Snowflake

## *Leucojum aestivum*

Despite the common name of “summer snowflake” the plant's drooping, white, green-tipped flowers bloom late winter to mid-spring rather than summer. This plant spreads readily and is often planted in lawns as well as rock gardens, under deciduous trees, in shrub borders, as ground cover, in woodland gardens and in flower beds. It does best when it is planted in mass. This plant is tolerant of heavy deciduous shade. It tolerates drought during dormancy but needs moisture during its growth period. This plant is tolerant of wet and clay soils. Extremely tolerant of various soil types and will grow in sand, loam, and clay soils although prefers soils with a more neutral or alkaline pH. Water regularly but with little amount of water during the growing season. Stop watering when flowering ends so that the bulbs rest. This plant is seldom damaged by deer.

**Type:** perennial bulb

**USDA hardiness zones:** 4 through 8

**Uses:** border; mass planting; container or above-ground planter; naturalizing; accent; ground cover

**Origin:** not native to Florida

**Height:** 2 feet      **Spread:** 1 foot

**Plant spacing:** 1 foot

**Light requirement:** shade (Less than 2 hours to no direct sunlight)

**Soil tolerances:** slightly acid to alkaline; clay; sand; loam

**Drought tolerance:** moderate

**Soil salt tolerances:** high

**Invasive potential:** low

**Pest resistance:** resistant to diseases and pests or diseases

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Photo: Missouri Botanical Garden