

# Society Garlic

## *Tulbaghia violacea*

Society garlic is practically a mistake-proof plant suitable for both new and seasoned gardeners. It is a groundcover that produces star-shaped purple flowers. The rhizomes and leaves are edible, as well as the flowers which can be used as a delicate garnish. Society garlic is great for a sunny, water-wise garden. This easy-to-grow plant prefers sandy soil and flowers best with full sun. It can be grown in partial shade but it will not flower well. The leaves smell of garlic when disturbed, so keep this in mind when selecting a location for planting.

**Type:** evergreen perennial

**USDA hardiness zones:** 7 through 10

**Uses:** border; edging; mass planting; container; groundcover

**Origin:** not native to North America

**Height:** 6 to 12 inches    **Spread:** 6 to 12 inches

**Plant spacing:** 15 inches

**Light requirement:** full sun to part shade

**Soil tolerances:** acidic; alkaline; sand; clay; loam

**Drought tolerance:** good

**Soil salt tolerances:** moderate

**Invasive potential:** not considered aggressive

**Pest resistance:** no serious pests or diseases are normally seen on the plant

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Photo: C. Wildes, UF/IFAS