



SWAMP TICKSEED CARE

LIGHT

Swamp tickseed (*Coreopsis palustris*), including Summer Sunshine, provides a late-season yellow display in sunny borders. Give it full sun for strong growth and flowering. This is a different species from Sunshine Superman, despite their similar names. Check the label for mature dimensions and local hardiness.

WATERING

Provide regular moisture during establishment and check plants during extended dry spells. This moisture-adapted species should not automatically receive the dry-rock-garden treatment used for many other tickseeds. Water the root zone deeply when needed, while avoiding stagnant water around a newly planted crown.

SOIL & PLANTING

Use garden soil that retains moisture while allowing drainage. Plant at the original nursery depth and water to settle the root ball. Leave ample room for an expanding clump; Summer Sunshine can become substantially wider than a small nursery plant. Avoid crowding neighboring perennials.

FERTILIZING

A modest compost amendment is sufficient where soil needs improvement. Avoid heavy nitrogen feeding that produces weak, lush growth. Base additional fertilizer on a soil test and product label. Before feeding a struggling plant, check moisture, root competition and whether the site receives enough sunlight.

FLOWERS & SPREAD

Expect the main display later than many familiar garden tickseeds; Summer Sunshine is noted for fall flowering. Preserve developing stems and buds rather than repeatedly shearing through summer. After flowering, leave sound seed heads if desired or trim spent growth to keep the planting tidy.

SEASONAL CARE

Remove dead stems as new growth begins in spring, taking care around emerging shoots. Manage expanding clumps when needed by lifting rooted sections and replanting promptly. Water divisions through establishment. Watch for persistent leaf spotting or crown decline and identify the cause before choosing a treatment.