Celosia argentea

Scientific classification

Kingdom: Plantae

Clade : Angiosperms
Order : Caryophyllales
Family : Amaranthaceae

Genus : Celosia

Species : C. argentea



Description

It is an annual herb and is very common as a garden plant. In India and China it is known as a troublesome weed. The tightly clustered blooms are said to resemble a rooster s comb, thus the common name "cockscomb". Flower colors include red, yellow, orange, gold, and pink. The celosias or cockscombs are erect, branching plants with oval or lance-shaped, brightly colored flowerheads which usually stand above the foliage. It blooms in mid-spring to summer. It is propagated by seeds. The seeds are extremely small, up to 43,000 seeds per ounce. The flowers are hermaphrodites and the plant also exhibits dodecaploidy.

Uses

The Celosia argentea has great medicinal value, used in the treatment of fatigue, leucorrhoea, atherosclerosis and osteoporosis and the seeds have been used for reducing the "liver heat", improving the eye sight, clearing wind heat and as an anti- inflammatory agent. Also used as antifungal, antibacterial.