

Echeveria 'Perle von Nurnberg' a colorful echeveria



Echeverias are considered by many succulent collectors to be among the most beautiful. They're highly valued for their amazing colors and variation. Further to their credit, their colors are often the most brilliant in the cooler months, making them an excellent winter addition. One of the most-sought-after varieties is E. 'Perle von Nurnberg.' This echeveria features a large rosette of acuminate leaves that are a milky blue with pronounced pink highlights. Gardeners will also notice a white powdery dusting, sometimes referred to as pruinose, adding to the plant's appeal. The leaves overlap neatly in 5- to 6-inch-wide solitary rosettes that eventually rise on a slender stem. The summer flowers, appearing on arching, foot tall reddish-stemmed inflorescences, are a coral pink color with yellow throats. This variety is one of the more prolific echeverias, often sending up five or six flowering spikes in a year.

Echeveria 'Perle von Nurnberg' is a cross between E. gibbiflora var. metallica and E. potosina, both native to [Mexico](#). It was created in the [1930s](#) by Richard Graessner of Perleberg, [Germany](#), considered a famous succulent plant grower in his time.

Because of this echeveria's tenderness, I recommend putting it in a pot. This allows you to move it to a more sheltered spot in the winter or bring it indoors. Potting it also allows you to provide it with the best possible drainage. Grow in coastal sun or part shade inland, using a soil mix including pumice, sand or loam to provide excellent drainage. Be careful not to overwater, as roots are susceptible to rotting. This succulent is very drought tolerant. Because of its cold sensitivity, protect planted specimens in mild zones and overwinter in a greenhouse or bring indoors for those in colder climates. This plant is easy to propagate from leaf cuttings or by planting offsets. Zones 10 & 11.

Excerpts from an article by Erle Nickel of the *San Francisco Chronicle*