## Ghost Plant *Graptopetalum paraguayense*

**Other Common Names:** Mother of Pearl



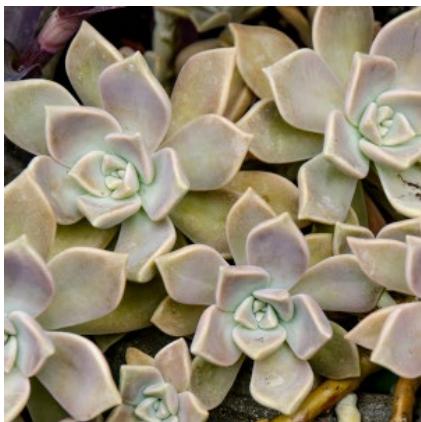Photo: Lea Watson /CC BY-NC-SA/DentonCountyMGA

**GHOST PLANT**
*Graptopetalum paraguayense*
*Perennial Succulent*

**Light:** Sun/Part Sun    **Water:** Low, Water deeply when dry
Up to 12"Tall/Trailing    **Color:** Small White-Yellow Star
Leaf color varies with growing conditions. Not cold hardy.
***Grown by a Denton County Master Gardener***

## General Information

Leaves form a rosette at the end of a woody stem. The leaves can take on a pink/yellow tone when exposed to sun or a blue gray tone when in the shade. There is a powdery silvery white coating on the leaves called farina and where this plant gets its common name.

## Characteristics

**Hardiness Zones:** 9a
**Heat Tolerance:** Yes
**Height Size:** Up to 1 foot with trails up to 3 feet
**Flowers:** Small white yellow flowers
**Bloom Time:** Spring/Summer attracting butterflies
**Leaves:** Pale gray thick fleshy tear drop leaves in a Fibonacci Spiral rosette
**Growth Habit/Shape:** Rapid growth, rosette leaves with hanging stems
**Dormancy:** Summer
**Soil Requirements:** Fast draining gritty succulent mix.
**Propagation:** Cutting or leaves
**Indoor/Outdoor**: Not cold hardy; can survive temperatures to 20* F. Over winter indoors near a sunny window or a grow light. Can be grown indoors but tend to grow longer stems.

## Pests and Diseases

Mealybugs and aphids are known pests that can be treated with Worm Castings used in the soil or as a tea.

## Plant Care

Use well-draining soil in a pot with drain holes. Water using the drench–drain–dry method.  Do not over water to prevent root rot. Another sign of over watering is excessive leaves falling from the plant. Fertilize lightly in early spring.

## Warning

Non-toxic; pet friendly.

## Sources for Additional Information

North Carolina State Extension Gardener Plant Tool Box. *Graptopetalum paraguayense*.
University of Florida Gardening Solutions. Ghost Plant.
National Gardening Association Plant Database. Ghost Plant (Graptopetalum paraguayense).