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Becky Crowley
Flower gardener at
Chatsworth

TRICYRTIS FORMOSANA

Also known as the toad lily, which is a reference to the spotted markings on the flowers, similar to (but rather more attractive than) the blotchy skin of a toad. We've had *Tricyrtis* plants within a herbaceous border at Chatsworth for years, but the exquisite little flowers tend to get lost among a mass of other plants. They are better enjoyed close up, where you can peer down on to their intricately marked flowers that open up at the very tip of long wiry stems. This makes them a wonderful choice for using in early autumn arrangements and bouquets, where they add a touch of the exotic despite being perfectly hardy in a shady spot in Derbyshire.

Height and spread 80cm x 45cm.

Origin Taiwan and the Ryukyu Islands; a chain of islands that is part of Japan.

Conditions Humus-rich moist soil; shade.

Hardiness RHS H5, USDA 4a-9b†.

Season of interest September – October.