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Blue African Agapanthus

Agapanthus africanus 'Blue'



Blue African Agapanthus flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 12 inches

Flower Height: 30 inches

Spread: 18 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Lily of the Nile, African Lily

Description:

This variety produces a mound of luxurious narrow green foliage; lovely light blue flower clusters appear in late summer on tall stems; perfect as an accent plant in the garden, or massed along borders

Ornamental Features

Blue African Agapanthus features bold clusters of sky blue trumpet-shaped flowers rising above the foliage from late summer to early fall, which emerge from distinctive violet flower buds. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its narrow leaves remain dark green in color throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Blue African Agapanthus is an herbaceous annual with a rigidly upright and towering form. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Blue African Agapanthus is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

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Planting & Growing

Blue African Agapanthus will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity extending to 30 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 18 inches. Although it's not a true annual, this plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Blue African Agapanthus is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.

