TAGAWA gardens

Shadow Mountain® Beard Tongue

Penstemon x mexicali 'Psmyers'

Plant Height: 18 inches

Flower Height: 24 inches

Spread: 18 inches

Spacing: 14 inches

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Beardtongue

Description:

Long blooming and easy to care for, this variety produces stunning lavender-blue flowers with contrasting white throats and purple-red veining; a great drought tolerant choice for garden beds, borders or containers



Shadow Mountain Beard Tongue flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Shadow Mountain Beard Tongue has masses of beautiful spikes of purple tubular flowers with white throats rising above the foliage from mid summer to early fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its narrow leaves remain green in color throughout the season.



Shadow Mountain Beard Tongue in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Shadow Mountain Beard Tongue is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

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

Shadow Mountain Beard Tongue is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Shadow Mountain Beard Tongue will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity extending to 24 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 18 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 14 inches apart. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. This plant should not require much in the way of fertilizing once established, although it may appreciate a shot of general-purpose fertilizer from time to time early in the growing season. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. 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.

Shadow Mountain Beard Tongue 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.

