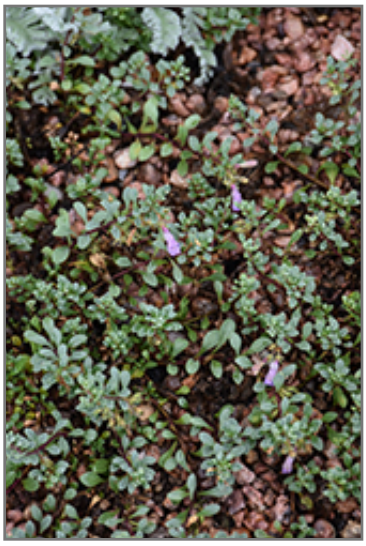
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## Tushar Bluemat Beard Tongue

***Penstemon xylus 'Tushar'***



*Tushar Bluemat Beard Tongue*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

Plant Height: 3 inches

Flower Height: 6 inches

Spread: 18 inches

Spacing: 8 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5

Other Names: Beardtongue

**Description:**

A lovely low growing variety producing ample amounts of blue-lavender flowers over steel-blue, evergreen foliage; ideal for rock gardens, landscapes, borders or along pathways; low maintenance and easy to grow; drought tolerant once established

**Ornamental Features**

Tushar Bluemat Beard Tongue has masses of beautiful spikes of lavender tubular flowers rising above the foliage from early to late summer, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its narrow leaves remain steel blue in color throughout the season.

**Landscape Attributes**

Tushar Bluemat Beard Tongue is an herbaceous perennial with a ground-hugging 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. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Spreading

Tushar Bluemat Beard Tongue is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

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**Planting & Growing**

Tushar Bluemat Beard Tongue will grow to be only 3 inches tall at maturity extending to 6 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 8 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 does best in full sun to partial shade. 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 highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider covering it with a thick layer of mulch in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selection of a native North American species. It can be propagated by cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Tushar Bluemat Beard Tongue is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its spreading habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.



