Twinkle™ Blue Balloon Flower

Platycodon grandiflorus 'Twinkle Blue'

Plant Height: 6 inches

Flower Height: 8 inches

Spread: 10 inches

Spacing: 8 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Group/Class: Twinkle Series

Description:

A densely branched, dwarf variety with balloon-shaped buds opening to large, star shaped blue flowers; fast and easy to grow; great for beds, patio containers, or border fronts



Twinkle Blue Balloon Flower flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Twinkle Blue Balloon Flower in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Twinkle Blue Balloon Flower has masses of beautiful spikes of blue bell-shaped flowers with violet overtones and navy blue veins rising above the foliage from mid spring to early summer, which emerge from distinctive chartreuse flower buds, and which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its narrow leaves remain dark green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Twinkle Blue Balloon Flower 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 has no significant negative characteristics.

Twinkle Blue Balloon Flower is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Twinkle Blue Balloon Flower will grow to be only 6 inches tall at maturity extending to 8 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 10 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 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.

Twinkle Blue Balloon Flower is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers against which the larger thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.