# Country Borage

***Plectranthus amboinicus 'Variegatus'***

Height: 20 inches

Spread: 3 feet

Spacing: 24 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 9

Other Names: Cuban Oregano, Succulent Spur Flower, Spurflower

**Description:**

Attractive spikes of lavender flowers massed above variegated green and white foliage that is used as a culinary herb; very drought tolerant once established; quite showy in the garden, massed as groundcover, or in containers; heat tolerant



*Country Borage foliage*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

**Ornamental Features**

Country Borage features showy spikes of lavender flowers with blue overtones rising above the foliage from mid spring to late fall. Its attractive fragrant pointy leaves emerge chartreuse in spring, turning dark green in color with distinctive white edges the rest of the year.



*Country Borage in bloom*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

**Landscape Attributes**

Country Borage is an herbaceous evergreen perennial with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and can be pruned at anytime. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Country Borage is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting

**Planting & Growing**

Country Borage will grow to be about 16 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 24 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. 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 cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Country Borage 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.