Italian Bellflower

Campanula garganica



Italian Bellflower flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 4 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 3

Description:

A low growing, mat forming selection that presents green, oval foliage with blue star-shaped flowers; a perfect addition to rock gardens, patio containers, borders and beds; deadhead regularly to promote new blooms

Ornamental Features

Italian Bellflower is smothered in stunning blue star-shaped flowers with white eyes at the ends of the stems in early summer. Its serrated round leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Italian Bellflower is a dense herbaceous perennial with a ground-hugging habit of growth. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Spreading

Italian Bellflower is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Italian Bellflower will grow to be only 4 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 inches. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 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 may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. 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. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.

Italian Bellflower 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.