Blue Aloe

Aloe glauca

Plant Height: 24 inches

Flower Height: 3 feet

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 8

Description:

Beautiful rosettes of succulent, lance shaped powder blue leaves, that may flush pink in full sun or stressful conditions; produces erect racemes of tubular salmon flowers in winter to spring; a wonderful garden or container accent

Ornamental Features

Blue Aloe features dainty spikes of salmon tubular flowers rising above the foliage from late winter to early spring. Its succulent sword-like leaves emerge lime green in spring, turning powder blue in color with showy grayish green variegation and tinges of pink the rest of the year.

Landscape Attributes

Blue Aloe is an herbaceous evergreen perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its wonderfully bold, coarse texture can be very effective in a balanced garden composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and usually looks its best without pruning, although it will tolerate pruning. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Blue Aloe is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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



Blue Aloe in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Blue Aloe flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Blue Aloe will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity extending to 3 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 24 inches. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more. 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 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. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in sandy soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.

Blue Aloe 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. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.