Valley Violet Maritime Ceanothus

Ceanothus maritimus 'Valley Violet'

Height: 30 inches

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 8

Other Names: California Lilac

Description:

A very dense, low growing groundcover shrub with dark green glossy foliage that discourages weeds; beautiful lavender-blue flower clusters add color in late winter; perfect for border edges and rock gardens; great for coastal or inland gardens

Ornamental Features

Valley Violet Maritime Ceanothus is bathed in stunning clusters of violet star-shaped flowers with sky blue overtones along the branches from late winter to early spring. It has attractive dark green evergreen foliage. The glossy oval leaves are highly ornamental and remain dark green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Valley Violet Maritime Ceanothus is a dense multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a mounded form. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;



Valley Violet Maritime Ceanothus flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Valley Violet Maritime Ceanothus in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

- Spreading

Valley Violet Maritime Ceanothus is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Valley Violet Maritime Ceanothus will grow to be about 30 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 30 years.

This shrub 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 may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. This plant will benefit from an application of bonemeal and/or mycorrhizal fertilizer at the time of planting. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selection of a native North American species.

Valley Violet Maritime Ceanothus makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. It can be used either as 'filler' or as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, depending on the height and form of the other plants used in the container planting. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.