Rift Blue Lobelia

Lobelia 'Rift Blue'



Rift Blue Lobelia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 8 inches

Flower Height: 12 inches

Spread: 8 inches

Spacing: 8 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Group/Class: Rift Series

Description:

A stunning and eye catching variety presenting well branched, mounded plants with boldly colored blooms splashed heavily with white variegation; blooming from spring through fall, this heat seeker is ideal for containers, beds and borders



Rift Blue Lobelia in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Rift Blue Lobelia features dainty blue flowers with white overtones at the ends of the stems from mid spring to mid fall. Its tiny narrow leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Rift Blue Lobelia is an herbaceous annual with a mounded form. 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. Trim off the flower heads after they fade and die to encourage more blooms late into the season. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Rift Blue Lobelia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Hanging Baskets

Planting & Growing

Rift Blue Lobelia will grow to be about 8 inches tall at maturity extending to 12 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 8 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 8 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. Although it's not a true annual, this fast-growing plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. This plant should not require much in the way of fertilizing once established, although it may appreciate a shot of general-purpose fertilizer from time to time early in the growing season. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. 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.

Rift Blue Lobelia is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in hanging baskets. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers against which the 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.