Game Changer® Blue Hydrangea

Hydrangea macrophylla 'Game Changer Blue'



Game Changer Blue Hydrangea flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5

Other Names: French Hydrangea, Bigleaf Hydrangea

Group/Class: Game Changer Series

Description:

A beautiful compact shrub that features large, soft blue lace cap flowers that bloom earlier and longer than other cultivars; color affected by soil pH; dark green foliage with good fall color; a wonderful choice for the flower garden or border

Ornamental Features

Game Changer Blue Hydrangea features bold silvery blue lacecap flowers with white overtones at the ends of the branches from late spring to mid fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has dark green deciduous foliage which emerges coppery-bronze in spring. The serrated pointy leaves turn an outstanding burgundy in the fall.

Landscape Attributes

Game Changer Blue Hydrangea is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage.

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 has no significant negative characteristics.

Game Changer Blue Hydrangea is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Game Changer Blue Hydrangea will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. It has a low canopy. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 30 years.

This shrub does best in a location that gets morning sunlight but is shaded from the hot afternoon sun, although it will also grow in partial shade. Keep it away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. 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, but has a definite preference for acidic soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.