Sparkler Bugleweed

Ajuga 'Sparkler'

Plant Height: 4 inches

Flower Height: 6 inches

Spread: 18 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Carpet Bugle



Sparkler Bugleweed foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Sparkler Bugleweed
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Description:

A striking variegated carpet bugle; dark green, glossy foliage splashed with creamy white will light up the floor of a garden like nothing else; vigorous, excellent for containers, as a groundcover and in borders; tolerates any soil with good drainage

Ornamental Features

Sparkler Bugleweed's attractive small crinkled oval leaves remain dark green in color with showy creamy white variegation throughout the year on a plant with a spreading habit of growth. It features subtle spikes of sky blue flowers rising above the foliage from mid to late spring.

Landscape Attributes

Sparkler Bugleweed is a dense herbaceous evergreen perennial with a ground-hugging habit of growth. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. It is a good choice for attracting 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;

- Spreading

Sparkler Bugleweed is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens

Planting & Growing

Sparkler Bugleweed will grow to be only 4 inches tall at maturity extending to 6 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 18 inches. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant does best in partial shade to full shade. Keep it well 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 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. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider covering it with a thick layer of mulch in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.