HERITAGE
FARM & GARDEN

Blue Star Japanese Aster

Kalimeris incisa 'Blue Star'



Blue Star Japanese Aster flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 18 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 18 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Other Names: False Aster

Description:

A distinguished low growing variety with lush green leaves; forms a blanket of daisy-like light blue flowers with a hint of pink and yellow centers; great for large mass plantings and border fronts; drought tolerant once established



Blue Star Japanese Aster in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Blue Star Japanese Aster is blanketed in stunning powder blue daisy flowers with shell pink overtones and yellow eyes at the ends of the stems from mid summer to mid fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive narrow leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Blue Star Japanese Aster is a dense herbaceous perennial with a mounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Blue Star Japanese Aster is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Blue Star Japanese Aster will grow to be about 15 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 18 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. 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.

Blue Star Japanese Aster is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers and foliage 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.