Whirlwind® Blue Fan Flower

Scaevola aemula 'Whirlwind Blue'



Whirlwind Blue Fan Flower flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 12 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 18 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 9

Group/Class: Whirlwind Series

Description:

An excellent, long blooming selection that is great in containers, landscapes, and combination planters of all kinds; heat tolerant and self-cleaning, so deadheading is not necessary

Ornamental Features

Whirlwind Blue Fan Flower features dainty royal blue flowers along the stems from mid spring to late summer. Its small serrated oval leaves remain dark green in color throughout the season.



Whirlwind Blue Fan Flower in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Whirlwind Blue Fan Flower is an herbaceous perennial with a trailing habit of growth, eventually spilling over the edges of hanging baskets and containers. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

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.

Whirlwind Blue Fan Flower is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets



Whirlwind Blue Fan Flower flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Whirlwind Blue Fan Flower will grow to be about 12 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 fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 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 considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. 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.

Whirlwind Blue Fan Flower is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. Because of its trailing habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.