Excelsior Spanish Bluebell

Hyacinthoides hispanica 'Excelsior'



Excelsior Spanish Bluebell flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 12 inches

Flower Height: 20 inches

Spread: 14 inches

Spacing: 12 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 3b

Other Names: Wood Hyacinth

Description:

This slightly taller Spanish Bluebell selection is a fantastic garden choice for its grassy foliage and substantial violet-blue bells that rise above the leaves on sturdy stalks; will slowly naturalize in the garden, tends to go dormant over the summer

Ornamental Features

Excelsior Spanish Bluebell features dainty spikes of blue bell-shaped flowers with violet overtones and sky blue stripes rising above the foliage from early to mid spring. Its grassy leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Excelsior Spanish Bluebell is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant. Trim off the flower heads after they fade and die to encourage more blooms late into the season. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Self-Seeding

Excelsior Spanish Bluebell is recommended for the following landscape applications;



Excelsior Spanish Bluebell in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Excelsior Spanish Bluebell will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity extending to 20 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 14 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 12 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 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! As this plant tends to go dormant in summer, it is best interplanted with late-season bloomers to hide the dying foliage.

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 is not particular as to soil type or pH. 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 division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Excelsior Spanish Bluebell is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.