

# Better Plants. Better Advice. Better Results.



Hot<sup>®</sup> Giant Blue Lobelia Lobelia 'Hot Giant Blue'

Height: 12 inches Spread: 8 inches Spacing: 6 inches Sunlight: O

Hardiness Zone: (annual) Group/Class: Hot Series

# **Description:**

This variety is covered with large, long lasting sky-blue flowers with contrasting white centers; excellent performance in summer heat; looks wonderful in mass plantings along borders or in containers

### **Ornamental Features**

Hot Giant Blue Lobelia is covered in stunning sky blue flowers with lavender overtones and white centers at the ends of the stems from mid spring to early fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its pointy leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

#### Landscape Attributes

Hot Giant Blue Lobelia is an herbaceous annual with a mounded form. 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 is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Hot Giant Blue Lobelia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



11301 S. Virginia Street Reno, NV 89511 (775) 853-1319

**Pyramid Way Garden Center** 3397 Pyramid Way Sparks, NV 89431 (775) 425-4300

Landscape Services & Design Center 1190 W. Moana Lane Reno, NV 89509 (775) 825-0602 ext. 134 NV Lic. #3379A, D & CA Lic. #317448

www.moananursery.com



Hot Giant Blue Lobelia flowers Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



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## **Planting & Growing**

Hot Giant Blue Lobelia will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 8 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 6 inches apart. Although it's not a true annual, this fast-growing plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It is quite adaptable, prefering to grow in average to wet conditions, and will even tolerate some standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets. 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.

Hot Giant Blue Lobelia 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 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.

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