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Black Scallop Bugleweed

Ajuga reptans 'Black Scallop'

Plant Height: 4 inches

Flower Height: 6 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight: ● ●

Hardiness Zone: 3

Other Names: Carpet Bugle

Description:

Full sun to full shade. Average to moist soil. Easy care. Has nearly jet-black foliage that is one of the darkest of any perennial! Leaves are glossy and scalloped. The deep blue flower spikes in the Spring to early summer compliment the dark foliage.

Ornamental Features

Black Scallop Bugleweed's attractive small crinkled round leaves emerge dark green in spring, turning deep purple in color the rest of the year on a plant with a spreading habit of growth. It features subtle spikes of blue flowers rising above the foliage from mid to late spring.

Landscape Attributes

Black Scallop 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.



Black Scallop Bugleweed flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Black Scallop Bugleweed
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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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

Black Scallop Bugleweed is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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



*Black Scallop Bugleweed in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

Planting & Growing

Black Scallop Bugleweed will grow to be only 4 inches tall at maturity extending to 6 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 24 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 evergreen 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 applying a thick mulch around the root zone in both summer and winter to conserve soil moisture and protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. 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.