

# SHEL MERDINE

## SECOND NATURE



### Sapphire Blue Chip Lisianthus

*Eustoma grandiflorum 'Sapphire Blue Chip'*

Height: 6 inches

Spread: 6 inches

Spacing: 6 inches

Sunlight: ☉ ●

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

#### Description:

Compact upright habit with excellent branching, this selection features beautiful white and purple flowers, rising above medium green foliage; excellent performance in containers and is adaptable for indoor use; deadhead to encourage new growth

#### Ornamental Features

Sapphire Blue Chip Lisianthus features showy semi-double white cup-shaped flowers with lilac purple edges at the ends of the stems from early to late summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its pointy leaves remain green in colour throughout the season.

#### Landscape Attributes

Sapphire Blue Chip Lisianthus is an herbaceous annual with an upright spreading 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.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Sapphire Blue Chip Lisianthus is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



*Sapphire Blue Chip Lisianthus*  
flowers

*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

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### **Planting & Growing**

Sapphire Blue Chip Lisianthus will grow to be only 6 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 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 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 highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Sapphire Blue Chip Lisianthus 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 larger 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.