

# SHELME RDINE

## SECOND NATURE



### **Illusion Midnight Lace Sweet Potato Vine**

*Ipomoea batatas 'Illusion Midnight Lace'*

Height: 8 inches

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight: ○ ●

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Group/Class: Illusion Series

#### **Ornamental Features**

Illusion Midnight Lace Sweet Potato Vine's attractive deeply cut lobed leaves remain deep purple in colour throughout the season. Neither the flowers nor the fruit are ornamentally significant.

#### **Landscape Attributes**

Illusion Midnight Lace Sweet Potato Vine is a dense herbaceous annual 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 is a relatively low maintenance plant. The flowers of this plant may actually detract from its ornamental features, so they can be removed as they appear. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Illusion Midnight Lace Sweet Potato Vine is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets

#### **Planting & Growing**

Illusion Midnight Lace Sweet Potato Vine will grow to be about 8 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. This fast-growing annual will normally live for one full growing season, needing replacement the following year.



*Illusion Midnight Lace Sweet Potato Vine foliage*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Illusion Midnight Lace Sweet Potato Vine*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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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 cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Illusion Midnight Lace Sweet Potato Vine 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.