

# SHELME RDINE

## SECOND NATURE



### **Mona Lavender Swedish Ivy**

*Plectranthus 'Mona Lavender'*

Plant Height: 12 inches

Flower Height: 18 inches

Spread: 18 inches

Spacing: 14 inches

Sunlight: ● ●

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Candle Vine, Candlestick Vine

#### **Ornamental Features**

Mona Lavender Swedish Ivy has masses of beautiful spikes of lavender tubular flowers rising above the foliage from late spring to mid fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its serrated pointy leaves remain dark green in colour throughout the season.

#### **Landscape Attributes**

Mona Lavender Swedish Ivy is a dense herbaceous annual with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. 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 not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. It is a good choice for attracting hummingbirds to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Mona Lavender Swedish Ivy is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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



*Mona Lavender Swedish Ivy flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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## Planting & Growing

Mona Lavender Swedish Ivy will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity extending to 18 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 18 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 14 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. Although it's not a true annual, this 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 partial shade to shade. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. 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 particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. 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.

Mona Lavender Swedish Ivy 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.