

# SHELMERDINE

## SECOND NATURE



### **Artist Alto Blue Flossflower** *Ageratum 'Artist Alto Blue'*

Height: 10 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 8 inches

Sunlight: ☉ ●

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Group/Class: Artist Series

#### **Description:**

This variety produces radiant clusters of fuzzy blue flowers all season long, with very low maintenance; great for borders, containers and rock gardens

#### **Ornamental Features**

Artist Alto Blue Flossflower has masses of beautiful powder blue flat-top button flowers at the ends of the stems from late spring to mid fall, which emerge from distinctive lavender flower buds, and which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its pointy leaves remain green in colour throughout the season.

#### **Landscape Attributes**

Artist Alto Blue Flossflower is a dense 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 plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep. Trim off the flower heads after they fade and die to encourage more blooms late into the season. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies and 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.

Artist Alto Blue Flossflower is recommended for the following landscape applications;



*Artist Alto Blue Flossflower flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Artist Alto Blue Flossflower in bloom*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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

## **Planting & Growing**

Artist Alto Blue Flossflower will grow to be about 10 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 8 inches apart. 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.

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 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.

Artist Alto Blue Flossflower is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. 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.