

# SHEL MERDINE

## SECOND NATURE



### **Surprise Purple Ice Petunia**

*Petunia 'Surprise Purple Ice'*

Height: 18 inches

Spread: 18 inches

Spacing: 15 inches

Sunlight: 

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Group/Class: Surprise Series

#### **Ornamental Features**

Surprise Purple Ice Petunia is smothered in stunning white trumpet-shaped flowers with deep purple veins at the ends of the stems from mid spring to late summer. Its pointy leaves remain green in colour throughout the season.



*Surprise Purple Ice Petunia flowers  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

#### **Landscape Attributes**

Surprise Purple Ice Petunia is a dense herbaceous annual with a trailing habit of growth, eventually spilling over the edges of hanging baskets and containers. 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.

Surprise Purple Ice Petunia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

#### **Planting & Growing**

Surprise Purple Ice Petunia will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 18 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 15 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. This fast-growing annual will normally live for one full growing season, needing replacement the following year.

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This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. 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.

Surprise Purple Ice Petunia 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.