

Allium lusitanicum 'Summer Beauty' Summer Beauty Allium

Allium lusitanicum 'Summer Beauty' (Summer Beauty Allium) is a long-blooming ornamental onion that produces showy globe-shaped lavender blooms from July to August. Beginning in early spring, it's fast-growing, grass-like foliage provides a uniform summertime carpet of vibrant deep green color. Fragrant flowers develop from a single umbel bearing tiny pale purple florets. Globe-shaped, 1 ½" wide clusters of flowers develop atop a 1.5-2' tall leafless, unbranched stem sticking well above bright, flowy clumps. Provides a nectar resource for butterflies and many other pollinators. Flowers fade, but the striking globe-shaped seed heads persist well into fall, providing wonderful late season interest. The pungent foliage is deer resistant. Works well in mass plantings and as a sterile cultivar; unwanted self-seeding is not a concern. However individual plants can take up to three years to begin spreading habit. Summer Beauty Allium prefers well-drained sandy-loam in full sun, but will tolerate part shade and a variety of garden soils. Pair with short flowering perennials and grasses that won't shade this sun-loving beauty.

Botanical Name: Allium lusitanicum 'Summer Beauty'

Common Name: Summer Beauty Allium

Family: Amaryllidaceae

Nativity: Not Native to US

USDA Zone: 5 to 8

Light Type: Full Sun to Part Shade (prefers full sun)

Soil Type: Sand, Loam, Clay

Soil Preferences: Moist but well-drained (prefers sandy loam)

Soil Moisture: Dry to Moist

Typical height (ft): 1.5-2' (1' foliage/1.5-2' flowering height)

Typical width (ft): 1.5-2'

Foliage: Green

Bloom Time: July, August

Bloom: Lavender

Ecological features: Floral resources attract butterflies and other pollinators

Tolerance of: Deer, Drought

Additional notes: Flowers are long-lasting and excellent as cut flowers; Seeds are sterile, does not spread; can be planted throughout the season (not just as fall bulbs)

Companion plants: Blue Sedge (Carex flacca), Bluestar (Amsonia spp.), Sage (Salvia spp.), various grasses, Coneflower (Echinacea spp.), Hyssop (Agastache spp.), Yarrow (Achillea spp.), Poppy (Papaver spp.), Sedum (Sedum spp.)

For more information see:

<https://www.luriegarden.org/plants/summer-beauty-onion/>

<http://www.newmoonnursery.com/plant/Allium-lusitanicum-Summer-Beauty>

<https://www.bluestoneperennials.com/ALSB.html>

<https://www.gardenia.net/plant/allium-summer-beauty>

Images of Allium lusitanicum 'Summer Beauty'



Allium lusitanicum 001.JPG

plant form



Allium lusitanicum 002.JPG
flower close-up



Allium lusitanicum sl7.jpg
plant roots



Allium lusitanicum_1.jpg
in garden context

Image choices for narrative:

Allium lusitanicum 001.JPG - plant form

Allium lusitanicum 002.JPG - flower close-up