



Bluebeard, La Barbe Bleue

Caryopteris 'SMCIPG'

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Spacing: 3 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 5b

Other Names: Bluebeard, Blue Spirea, Blue Mist Shrub

Description:

A beautiful, airy shrub with bright, shiny yellow foliage in spring and summer, then complimented with blue flowers in later summer and early fall; foliage has fuzzy undersides and is fragrant when crushed; a true butterfly magnet for the garden



Bluebeard, La Barbe Bleue foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Bluebeard, La Barbe Bleue features dainty cymes of royal blue flowers along the branches from mid summer to mid fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has attractive yellow foliage with hints of light green. The fragrant narrow leaves are highly ornamental but do not develop any appreciable fall color. The brick red stems can be quite attractive.

Landscape Attributes

Bluebeard, La Barbe Bleue is an open multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a more or less rounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting birds, bees and butterflies 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.

Bluebeard, La Barbe Bleue is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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



Planting & Growing

Bluebeard, La Barbe Bleue will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 3 feet apart. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. This plant should be periodically fertilized throughout the active growing season with a specially-formulated acidic fertilizer. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.