



Amethyst Dream



Amethyst in Snow



Black Sprite

***Centaurea* 'Amethyst Dream', 'Amethyst in Snow' & 'Black Sprite'**

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Captivating starburst blossoms dress up mounding foliage. Gray green leaves feature tiny, silvery hairs for a soft appearance. *'Amethyst Dream'* and *'Amethyst Snow'*: introduced by *Blooms of Bressingham*; hybridized by *Sahin*. *'Black Sprite'*: introduced by *Sunny Border Nurseries*.

'Amethyst Dream'—large, royal purple flowers

'Amethyst in Snow'—pure white blooms with a deep royal purple center

'Black Sprite'—silky black, spidery blossoms

USES

Centaurea is very showy in borders and beds, and make interesting cut flowers. This easy-to-grow perennial handles different soil types, but prefers good drainage and requires moderate watering.

GROWER NOTES

The following information is based on our own experience with this crop in the Pacific Northwest. Growth will vary depending on location, climate, growing medium and cultural practices. As always, where chemical use is involved, read the labels, follow the instructions and practice careful trialing methods.

- Plant in either fall or spring. Provide a vernalization period of 6–10 weeks to shorten the time to flower for finished crops.
- For larger pots without using multiple plugs, plant in late summer or early fall to give the crown time to fill out prior to winter. Allow 4–6 weeks for plants to become established before the onset of freezing weather.
- Grow in full sun in a well-drained soil mix. Be sure to keep crown at soil level. Planting too deep can cause crown rots. Apply a preventive drench after transplanting for best results.
- Avoid overwatering and overfeeding. EC of 1.5–2.0 is adequate. Space plants early to encourage compact growth and prevent disease.
- A relatively simple crop to grow, *Centaurea* can occasionally suffer foliage damage in summer from mites or thrips. Spray early and thoroughly for thrips to prevent them from becoming established in the crown of the plant.
- In cool, wet weather, apply preventive fungicides for mildew and *Botrytis*.

PLANT DATA

'Amethyst Dream'

Height: 20"/20"

Spread: 28"

Bloom time: May–Jun

USDA Zone: 3(-40°)

'Amethyst in Snow'

Height: 14"/14"

Spread: 24"

Bloom time: May–Jun

USDA Zone: 3(-40°)

'Black Sprite'

Height: 14"/14"

Spread: 24"

Bloom time: May–Jun

USDA Zone: 3(-40°)

APPROXIMATE FINISH TIMES

- Gallon from 72-cell liner: 6–8 weeks
- 2-gallon from 72-cell liner: 10–12 weeks

Note: For fall transplants, begin counting weeks from first expected date of active growth the following spring.

PATENT INFORMATION

C. montana 'Amethyst Dream':

USPP #20781

C. montana 'Amethyst in Snow':

USPP #18284

C. montana 'Black Sprite': USPPP