



Lithodora 'White Star'

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This is a new variation of the popular and well-known *Lithodora* 'Grace Ward' found at Takao Nurseries. This cultivar has the same evergreen, narrow foliage and slightly mounding, prostrate habit, but the flowers sport a white central star with a bright blue edge. When in bloom, the foliage is nearly covered with these showy, blue and white blossoms. *Introduced by Blooms of Bressingham.*

USES

Perfect for a rockery or cascading over a retaining wall or down a bank. 'White Star' is especially useful in sunny locations with lean, moist soil, but will tolerate dry soil once established. It makes an excellent ground cover in the Pacific Northwest and similar coastal, temperate climates.

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 fall, late winter or early spring to ensure that plants root well before blooming begins.
- For fall planting, transplant in a cool, protected area several weeks prior to freezing temperatures. Provide winter protection during periods of extreme cold, or cold, dry winds.
- Plant plug even with the soil line.
- Avoid planting during times of high heat or humidity.
- Use fast-draining soil and feed only as necessary with liquid feed. Do not use a time-release fertilizer. Plants are

susceptible to salts damage during rooting and should be kept evenly moist (not waterlogged) and leached periodically with fresh water.

- Grow cool and lean for an easy crop.
- Pests and diseases are rarely a serious problem.
- Pinch plants to promote branching, but do it before the stems harden off. Trim older plants, but avoid cutting into hardened-off wood low on the stems to prevent new growth from becoming weak and slow to emerge.

PLANT DATA

- Height: 6–12"/12"
- Spread: 18"
- Bloom time: May–Jun
- USDA Zone: 6(-10°)

APPROXIMATE FINISH TIMES

- Gallon from 128-cell liner: plant 8–10 weeks before first hard frost; finish in late April
- 4" from 128-cell liner: plant 4 weeks before first hard frost; finish in late April
- Gallon from 128-cell liner: 12 weeks from spring transplant
- 4" from 128-cell liner: 6–8 weeks from spring transplant

PATENT INFORMATION

Asexual propagation prohibited
L. diffusa 'White Star': COPF, USPP #20078