



RUELLIA humilis

Wild Petunia

Item No.: RG202

Also available as: Normal Seed

Plant Description

Article Type	GOLD NUGGET SEED ®
Life Cycle	Perennial
Family	Acanthaceae
Origin	North America: Pennsylvania to Florida, west to Nebraska and Texas
Special Features	A colorful, underused species with clusters of lavender-blue flowers. Large flowering. Drought resistant species adapted to open, dry woodlands, rocky slopes and dry prairies. Once germinated this is an easy-to-grow perennial and very durable. Single erect stems at first, becoming multi-branched.
Basic Colour	(blue)
Flower Colour	pale blue-violet
Natural Flowering Period	July - September
Winter Hardiness Zones	Z4 - Z8
Foliage	lanceolate to ovate, deep green
Height with Flowers	40 cm
Spacing between Plants	40 cm
Soil Requirements	dry
Location	
Usage	for the rock garden

Cultivation

Grams per 1000 seeds	7.14286 Gram
Seeds per Gram	140 (does not correspond to the number of plants!)
Sowing Rates/Trays	2 per cell



Plug tray recommended size(s)	open flats / 72
Sowing Direction	(15) Rapidly germinating, keep seed in constant moisture (not wet) with temperatures of about +20°C [68°F]. Seeds must be covered thinly. Do not cover very small seeds, but tightly press into the earth. Keep in cooler conditions after germination occurs.

Scheduling

Best Sowing Date	Anytime (northern Hemisphere, Field condition)
Sowing to Germination	3 - 4 weeks
Germination to Transplant	4 - 8 weeks
Transplanting to Potting	6 - 10 weeks
Cutting back at Transplanting	Not Necessary.

Growing On

Container Size(s)	1 plug per 8/9 cm (3 1/2") / 1-2 plugs per 11/12 cm (4 1/2")
Vernalization	There is no current research on vernalization but a prudent recommendation for any perennial would be 6-12 weeks (a few might need 15 weeks!) at an average daily temperature of 40°F (5°C). Exposure to cold may not be necessary for flowering but might improve quality.
Forcing	An obvious place to experiment - following vernalization - would be raising daytime temperatures to 60° - 65°F (15° - 17°C). Provide 16 hours of continuous lighting. During the short days of winter, provide a night interruption lighting of 4 hours between 10:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m.
Fertilizer	Medium (150-200 ppm)