



AMSONIA tabernaemontana

[Stars, Blue Star]

Eastern Bluestar, Dogbane

Item No.: AG366

Also available as: Normal Seed

Plant Description

Article Type	GOLD NUGGET SEED®
Life Cycle	Perennial
Family	Apocynaceae
Origin	Eastern USA westward to Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas
Special Features	Very low maintenance, long-lived and deer resistant. Pale blue star-shaped blossoms.
Basic Colour	(blue)
Flower Colour	light blue
Natural Flowering Period	May - July
Winter Hardiness Zones	Z4 - Z9
Foliage	broad, willow-like leaves with beautiful golden fall color
Growth Habit	upright, erect / sturdy
Height with Flowers	80 cm
Spacing between Plants	80 cm
Soil Requirements	well-drained / average
Location	
Characteristics	ornamental foliage plant
Usage	honey-bee food plant

Cultivation

Grams per 1000 seeds	13.33333 Gram
Seeds per Gram	75 (does not correspond to the number of plants!)
Sowing Rates/Trays	2 per cell



Plug tray recommended size(s)	72 / 128
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 - 6 weeks
Transplanting to Potting	6 - 8 weeks
Cutting back at Transplanting	Cut-back once to keep more compact.

Growing On

Container Size(s)	1-2 plugs per 11/12 cm (4 1/2") / 2-3 plugs per 15 cm (6")
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)