



Scientific name: *Linum lewisii*

Common name(s): Wild Blue Flax, Prairie/Lewis Flax

Family: Linaceae (Flax)

Native: CO, Rocky Mountains, West, Northwest

Habitat: Plains, foothills, open woodlands, meadows

With its distinct blue color and delicate foliage, Blue Flax compliments most native landscapes. Plant in combination with Evening Primrose (*Oenothera sp.*), Prince’s Plume (*Stanleya pinnata*), Large Beardtongue (*Penstemon grandiflorus*), Common Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), Hairy False Goldenaster (*Heterotheca villosa*) and our native grasses. Sow with seeds of California Poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*) for a pronounced pop of color. Read labels closely; most Blue Flax seeds and plants in the trade are the Eurasian *L. perenne*.

Plant type: Perennial (reseeds readily)

Elevation: to 11,400’

USDA Hardiness Zone: 2

Exposure: Full sun, light shade

Soil: Well-drained soils (prefers sandy)

Moisture: Moderate, low, dry

Flower color: Light to deep blue

Bloom time: Mid spring to mid summer; may rebloom in fall

Mature size (height x width): 12-24” x 12-18”



Propagation: Blue Flax seeds germinate best when exposed to broad temperature fluctuations before consistently exposed to 70°F (spring weather). The easiest way to provide temperature swings is to sow the seeds in early winter either in cells/pots or in situ. Cover lightly. Pile snow on the cells regularly during the winter.

