



## Emerald Goddess Gardens emeraldgoddessgardens.com

- Botanical Name: *Agastache 'rugosa x foeniculum'*
- Common Name: Blue Fortune Agastache
- Plant Family: Lamiaceae
- Mature Size: 2 – 3 ft.
- Growth Habit: Shrub
- Bloom Color: Blue
- Bloom Form: Bottle-brush like
- Bloom Time: Summer to Late Fall
- Water Needs: Moderate
- Light Needs: Full Sun
- Recommended Zones: 5 - 11
- Key Features: Butterfly attractant, Deer resistant, Fragrant Blooms
- Suggested Uses: Butterfly habitat, ornamental, potted specimen, border
- Growers Notes : All plants intended for use in a butterfly habitat should be quarantined for 30 days prior to planting.



**Agastache 'Blue Fortune'** is a versatile, low growing shrub that adds visual interest and fragrance to many gardens. The bluish-purple powder puff shaped blooms of this plant are extremely attractive to butterflies and hummingbirds.

The lamiaceae family of plants can be found scattered through grocery stores labeled as mint. Crushing the leaves of Agastache will yield a potent minty fragrance. The leaves are very soft and have a slightly fuzzy texture. As with many soft-leaved plants, in times of drought or extreme heat leaves will appear wilted. To combat this issue, plant Blue Fortune Agastache in well draining soil and water frequently until established (especially in hot climates).

Blue Fortune Agastache was given the Great Plant Picks Award in 2004 for its easy to grow nature and aesthetic appeal. These plants rarely need pruning or separating and will thrive in potted containers or landscape borders. Regularly snip off blooms that have expired and capture any seeds to prevent spread of this plant.

Direct planting of 4 inch starters is not recommended. For success with your new **Agastache Blue Fortune** follow these helpful tips:

- Plant in well draining soil.
- Locate in full sun
- Provide supplemental irrigation until well established.
- Prune lightly after flowering to encourage branching and shape.
- Feed a good quality bloom boosting fertilize with the initial planting and yearly thereafter.
- Protect from frost and freeze until very well established.

For quick answers to your growing or planting questions, just email us at [service@emeraldgoddessgardens.com](mailto:service@emeraldgoddessgardens.com)

If you don't know your USDA Planting Zone, you can check the map on our website site at [emeraldgoddessgardens.com](http://emeraldgoddessgardens.com)

## Care of Your New Plant Butterfly Garden Plant

Here are a few basic guidelines for handling and caring for your new plant:

Please note that we are a fully licensed and certified commercial mail order nursery, and as such are required by law to treat all plants immediately prior to shipping to assure that we do not inadvertently transfer pests or disease into other states. Generally, we use short acting products such as Neem Oil that will protect the plant for 7 to 14 days at most, and can be washed away with soap and water. However, we recommend that all serious butterfly enthusiasts quarantine all plants from any source for a 30 day period before introducing them into the habitat.

Direct planting of 4 inch starter size plants or plugs directly into the landscape is not recommended, with a few exceptions. So, for the best results with your new plant we suggest that it be repotted into a larger pot and allowed to grow larger until the new pot is filled with roots before setting out.

Check the recommended USDA Zone Range for the plant. Many gardeners are able to successfully grow plants outside their recommended Zones, but this is dependent upon providing the type of environment and care the plant needs.

- Immediately repot the new plant into a 6 inch to 10 inch diameter pot (a 6 inch pot is the recommended size for starter plugs) that can drain easily and thoroughly.
- Use a good quality commercial potting media.
- Apply a high quality, slow release plant food according to the label directions. Do not use hot, all chemical fertilizers like 6-6-6 or 10-10-10.
- Locate so that the plant can receive direct, full spectrum light for several hours daily, but is protected from hot, direct afternoon sun.
- Maintain consistent and uniform moisture in the soil. Take care not to over water.
- Packing crystals may be reused to conserve water, but do so with caution as they hold 6000 times their weight in water.
- If reusing the crystals, mix and incorporate them thoroughly throughout the potting media.
- Be sure the pot can drain and that the bottom of the pot does not sit submerged in water for more than a few hours.
- Supplement feed with a water soluble plant food every 2-3 weeks according to the label directions.
- Prune or pinch lightly and often when the plant is young and actively growing to strengthen the central stalk and encourage branching and build uniform shape.
- Monitor for signs of disease or insects and treat accordingly.
- Protect from frost and freeze, as even cold tolerant plants can be damaged by cold, and tropicals will perform better, flower earlier, and live longer within their Zone Range when protected from cold temperatures.

Many tropical and subtropical plants can be grown as potted plants indefinitely, and can be successfully wintered over indoors in colder climates, so long as they are moved indoors well ahead of temps into the 30°F's, are maintained in warm environment (minimum 40°F) with adequate, full spectrum light, consistent soil moisture is maintained, and any pest or disease issue are promptly and properly addressed.

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*Ornamental Plants sold by Emerald Goddess Gardens are intended for use as ornamental decorative items only. Emerald Goddess Gardens does not recommend or endorse any other use.*