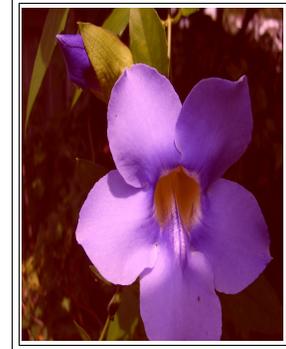




Emerald Goddess Gardens

emeraldgoddessgardens.com

Botanical Name	Thunbergia grandiflora augusta
Common Name	Blue Sky Vine, Blue Trumpet Vine
Mature Size	40' runners
Plant Family	Acanthaceae
Bloom Color	Blue
Bloom Period	Warm Season
Boom Form	Trumpet
Water Needs	Moderate until well established
Light	Full sun, light shade
USDA Zone	8B, 9, 10, 11
Fragrance	No
Uses	Trellis, Fence, Arbor, Basket, Planters
Special Features	Quick cover, easy to grow, showy bloom
Grower Notes	Very fast, aggressive grower



Thunbergia grandiflora, also commonly called *Blue Sky Vine*, *Bengal Trumpet*, *Blue Trumpet Vine*, *Royal Clock Vine* or *Indian Sky Vine* is often referenced as one of the most beautiful vines in the world. Once you've seen a big mature one in full bloom it would be difficult, if not impossible to disagree. It is believed to have originated at *Kew Gardens* in England.

Profuse clusters of large 3 to 4 inch, slightly belled, rich blue trumpet shaped flowers with pale yellow and white throats hang in long pendant like strings in, around, amongst and over a bounty of big, thick, luxurious, deep green, serrated leaves and strong twisting, vining, curling stems.

This vine grows large and does it quickly, providing quick warm weather cover to a trellis, fence, arbor, or any other support that is nearby. Runners can easily reach out 30 to 40 feet in a single season.

Bloom begins to appear as soon as the nights come into the 65° to 70°F range and the days get a big longer. **Blue Sky Vine** is generally evergreen in the tropics and subtropics. Chilling and light frost will burn the foliage and knock it into dormancy until spring. In Zone 8B it will freeze to ground and resprout in the spring. The Root Zone is considered hardy to about 20°F when well established.

Because it is so easy to grow and quick to establish, 4 inch starter plants can be successfully planted directly into the landscape within the recommended USDA Zone range, so long as careful attention is given to keeping them well watered.

- For the best results with **Blue Sky Vine**:
- Plant in fertile, well draining soil
- Select a location in full sun or lightly dappled shade
- Select a location with adequate space
- Provide a trellis or other support for climbing
- Feed a good quality bloom boosting food 1x yearly for optimum flowering and intense color. Well established plants seldom require additional nutrition.
- Prune often to contain size and spread.

For quick answers to your growing or planting questions, just email us at service@emeraldgoddessgardens.com

If you don't know your USDA Planting Zone, you can check the map on our website site at emeraldgoddessgardens.com

Care of Your New Plant

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

Direct planting of 4 inch starter size plants or plugs directly into the landscape is not generally 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 recommended for starter plugs, and a 10 inch in recommended for 4 inch diameter starter pots.
- Use a good quality commercial bagged potting media.
- Apply a high quality, slow release plant food according to the label directions. Do not use hot, all chemical, quick release fertilizers like 6-6-6 or 10-10-10.
- Check the recommended location in the plant specifics and position accordingly. Note that plants that are suitable for growing in full sun should be acclimated, and young plants should be protected from direct, very hot sun while they are becoming established.
- Maintain consistent and uniform moisture in the soil. Take care not to over water. Some plants prefer to dry a bit between waterings, so check the plant specifics.
- Packing crystals may be re-used to conserve water, but do so with caution as they hold 6000 times their weight in water.
- If re-using 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.
- 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 when young, or during cold conditions more severe or longer duration than the average for the Zone Range.
- Prune or pinch lightly and often when the plant is young and actively growing to strengthen the central stalk, encourage branching, and build uniform shape.
- Monitor for signs of disease or insects and treat accordingly

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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