

Plumbago auriculata

(Plumbago, Cape Plumbago, Sky Flower)

Plumbago auriculata is a sprawling, mounding, somewhat vine-like, evergreen shrub, covered most of the year with clusters of pale blue, phlox-like flowers. Plumbago is excellent as a foundation planting, or when used in planters. It will cascade down a retaining wall, showing off its unusual blue flowers. It can also be sheared into a hedge, but most of the flowers are removed at each pruning. Leaves may yellow on soils with a high pH.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

<b>Pronunciation:</b> plum-BAY-go ah-rick-yoo-LAY-tuh
<b>Plant Type:</b> Vine
<b>Origin:</b> South Africa
<b>Heat Zones:</b> 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16
<b>Hardiness Zones:</b> 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
<b>Uses:</b> Hedge, Wildlife, Ground cover
<b>Size/Shape</b>
<b>Growth Rate:</b> Fast
<b>Tree Shape:</b> Spreading
<b>Canopy Density:</b> Medium
<b>Canopy Texture:</b> Fine
<b>Height at Maturity:</b> 1 to 1.5 m
<b>Spread at Maturity:</b> 1.5 to 3 meters
<b>Time to Ultimate Height:</b> 5 to 10 Years

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Flower Image

## Botanical Description

### Foliage

**Leaf Arrangement:** Opposite  
**Leaf Venation:** Brachidodrome  
**Leaf Persistance:** Evergreen  
**Leaf Type:** Simple  
**Leaf Blade:** Less than 5  
**Leaf Shape:** Oblong  
**Leaf Margins:** Undulate  
**Leaf Textures:** Smooth  
**Leaf Scent:**  
**Color(changing season):** Green

### Flower

**Flower Showiness:** True  
**Flower Scent:** Pleasant  
**Seasons:** Year Round

### Trunk

**Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage:** Generally resists breakage  
**Number of Trunks:** Multi-Trunked  
**Trunk Esthetic Values:** Not Showy

### Fruit

**Fruit Showiness:** False  
**Fruit Size Range:** 0 - 1.5  
**Fruit Colors:** Brown  
**Seasons:** Year Round

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Leaf Image

**Horticulture Management**

**Tolerance**

- Frost Tolerant:** No
- Heat Tolerant:** Yes
- Drought Tolerant:** No

**Requirements**

- Soil Requirements:** Loam, Sand
- Soil Ph Requirements:** Acidic, Neutral
- Water Requirements:** Moderate, Low
- Light Requirements:** Full, Part

**Management**

- Toxity:** No
- Invasive Potential:** No
- Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases:** No
- Pruning Requirement:** Needed, to develop a strong structure
- Surface Rooting:** No
- Life Span:** Less than 25
- Edible Parts:** None
- Plant Propagations:** Seed, Cutting

## MORE IMAGES



Other Image