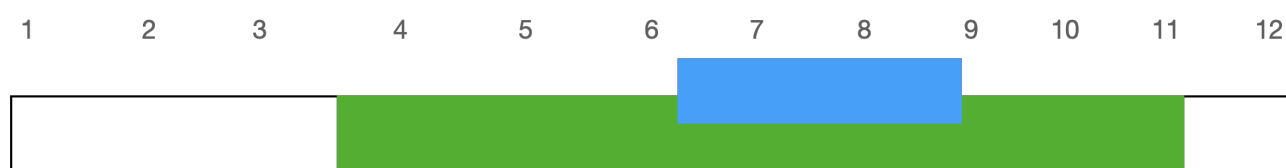


AGAPANTHUS - Amaryllidaceae

Around 6-10 South African species; species boundaries being not clear. The overwhelming majority of plants in cultivation are hybrids of which there are many, although growers in many countries seem to be blissfully unaware of this; indeed there seems to be in an inverse relationship between climate suitability and the numbers of cultivars available; the UK national collection is in Yorkshire, whilst in Buenos Aires every plant is an identical blue for kilometre after kilometre.

The main differences between cultivars is flower colour and size. In other ways they can all be regarded as very similar.



Height	0.3-0.4m (foliage), 0.4 -1.3m (in flower)
Spread	0.3- 0.5m
Foliage	Glossy, strap-shaped leaves. As well as deciduous species there are evergreen.
Architecture	M2. Basal linear leaves emerging from base of ramet in a plane
Post-flowering	Seed heads are short-lived but stems are durable and attractive
Flowers	Blue, in distinct round clusters. Also white cultivars and some darker purples
Longevity	Notably long-lived, indestructible
Spread mode	Caulophyte, Phalanx,
Spread Rate	Moderate, but often slow to establish
Persistence	High
Clump Density	High
Seeding	Occasional, can be extensive in warmer climates; invasive potential
Soil	Average, neutral to alkaline preferred
Moisture	Average preferred, but notably drought and heat-tolerant. Also tolerant of coastal wind.
Light	Sun, light shade in warmer climates, good in dry shade although reduced flowering
Hardiness	USDA Zone 8, although some deciduous cultivars may be hardy to zone 6, with some protection

Slow from seed, often taking 3 years to flowering and sometimes slow to establish, once thriving these plants spread inexorably, eliminating anything in their path. This,

combined with seeding makes them potentially very dangerous potential invasives in some warmer climates.

'**Headbourne Hybrids**' are a variable group, originally bred in southern England from the 1940s onwards, primarily from various forms of *A. campanulatus*. To 1.0m and various shades mid-blue.

A. inapertus, is a tall (to 1.2m) deciduous species which flowers in late summer with darker and distinctly tubular and pendant flowers, its genes being the basis of the increasingly popular dark-flowered hybrids.

subsp. hollandii 'Sky' AGM, Deciduous, 1.3m, pale violet blue.

The following list of AGM awards (2018) is not complete, only those with more widespread distribution (in UK) are given.

Season (for UK): Early – June, Mid – July, Late - August

		Zone Height			Season	
'African Skies'	Evergreen	Z9	1.0	Violet Blue	Mid	Buds are dark coloured
'Alan Street'	Deciduous	Z8	1.2	Dark violet	Late	One of the best on trial.
Arctic Star	Evergreen	Z8	0.9	Pure white	Early	
'Ballerina'	Evergreen	Z9	1.3	Mid-blue	Mid	inapertus shape, floriferous
'Blue Ice'	Evergreen	Z8	0.9	Almost white	Mid	
Double Diamond PBR	Evergreen	Z9	0.5	Pure white	Early	
Fireworks PBR	Evergreen	Z9	0.6	White, violet throat	Early	
Full Moon	Semi-evergreen	Z9	1.2	White, blue veins	Late	Flower heads a perfect globe
Jacaranda'	Evergreen	Z9	0.6	Mid-blue, violet veins	Early	
Jessica'	Deciduous	Z8	0.6	Deep violet blue	Mid	
Loch Hope	Deciduous	Z7	1.5	Pale blue, deeper veins	Late	
Megan's Mauve'	Evergreen	Z9	1.1	Pale blue, deeper veins	Mid	
Northern Star' PBR	Deciduous	Z8	1.0	Deep blue	Mid	
Pino	Evergreen	Z8	0.8	Mid-violet-blue	Mid	Very floriferous
Purple Delight'	Evergreen	Z9	1.2	Purple blue	Late	
Royal Blue	Deciduous	Z7	0.8	Mid-blue	Late	
Royal Velvet	Evergreen	Z8	0.8	Deep violet, darker veins	Late	
Silver Baby'	Evergreen	Z9	0.4	Very pale blue	Early	
Silver Moon PBR	Deciduous	Z7	0.6	Pale blue	Mid	Variegated foliage
Snow Cloud'	Evergreen	Z8	1.0	Pure white	Mid	Very floriferous
Snow Crystal'	Evergreen	Z8	1.3	Pure white	Mid	Best white in trial
Twister PBR	Evergreen	Z8	0.7	White, violet throat	Mid	long-lasting

References:

RHS Agapanthus Grower Guide: <https://online.fliphtml5.com/ijlq/rjrq/#p=1>