

AGASTACHE – Lamiaceae

22 species, with two very distinctly different botanical sections: 1) sect. *Brittonastrum* - semi-shrubby species from southern USA southwards – not covered here as only borderline hardy, 2) sect. *Agastache* - herbaceous species, mostly North American, one Asian.

A. rugosa

Eastern Asia



Height	0.8-1.4m (in flower)
Spread	0.25-0.5m
Foliage	Simple, highly aromatic (minty)
Architecture	S1. Upright, unbranched, in clumps
Flowers	Blue-purple in tight spikes
Post-flowering	3-6 months interest from robust seed heads
Longevity	3-5 years
Spread mode	Rhizophyte
Underground	Tap root
Spread Rate	Minimal
Persistence	na
Clump Density	na
Standing	Firm
Seeding	Moderate, can be extensive
Soil	Average
Moisture	Average
Light	Sun
Hardiness	USDA zone 5

Visually impressive over a long season but sadly short-lived. Much confusion with *A. foeniculum*.

A. 'Blue Fortune' AGM resulted from a cross between *A. rugosa* and *A. foeniculum*, selected by Gert Fortgens of the Arboretum Trompenberg in Rotterdam. Similar to *A. rugosa*, but bushier, wider and very free-flowering.

A. nepetoides - Yellow Giant Hyssop (eastern North America; woodland edge, disturbed ground, fertile, calcareous soils), to 2m, with yellow-green flowers, clonal and rhizomatous growth, forming colonies. Some evidence that it does not survive winter in maritime

climates.

A. foeniculum - Anise Hyssop ((*A. anethiodora*) (much of N. America) , to 1.2m, blue-purple flowers, clonal and rhizomatous growth, Moderate spread, forming colonies. Smell often thought of as unpleasant.

Images

A. rugosa

https://bethchatto.2dimg.com/1/agastache-rugosa-golden-jubilee-bc-nursery-5-8-22_dd24011049.jpg

https://www.apifleurs.fr/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Photo_2-1024x1024.jpg

'Blue Fortune

https://www.midwestgroundcovers.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Agastache_Blue_Fortune-1024x1024.jpg

A. nepetoides

https://objects.liquidweb.services/images/201502/yellow_giant_hyssop_ho_md_19810829_rsolem_x3.jpg

https://i2.wp.com/strictlymedicalseeds.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Giant_yellow_hyssop_agastache_nepetoides.jpg?fit=1200%2C800&ssl=1

A. foeniculum

<https://d2seqvvy3b8p2.cloudfront.net/223726dce856782bc23398ce340ca68a.jpg>

References:

Jansen, Coen, 'Agastache für sonnigtrockene Standorte' Garten Praxis 5-1999.