



Cooperative Extension Service  
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

## *Browallia speciosa*<sup>1</sup>

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### Introduction

*Browallia* produces blue or white flowers over a long period of time (Fig. 1). The plant prefers afternoon shade and has a height of one to one and a half feet. Over fertilization causes leaf growth at the expense of flower production. *Browallia* is suitable for hanging pots.

### General Information

**Scientific name:** *Browallia speciosa*

**Pronunciation:** bro-WAL-ee-uh spee-see-O-suh

**Common name(s):** *Browallia*, Amethyst Flower

**Family:** *Solanaceae*

**Plant type:** annual

**USDA hardiness zones:** all zones (Fig. 2)

**Planting month for zone 7:** Jun

**Planting month for zone 8:** May

**Planting month for zone 9:** Apr

**Planting month for zone 10 and 11:** Mar; Sep; Oct; Nov

**Origin:** not native to North America

**Uses:** mass planting; container or above-ground planter; cut flowers; cascading down a wall

**Availability:** grown in small quantities by a small number of nurseries

### Description

**Height:** 1 to 2 feet

**Spread:** 1 to 2 feet

**Plant habit:** round

**Plant density:** moderate

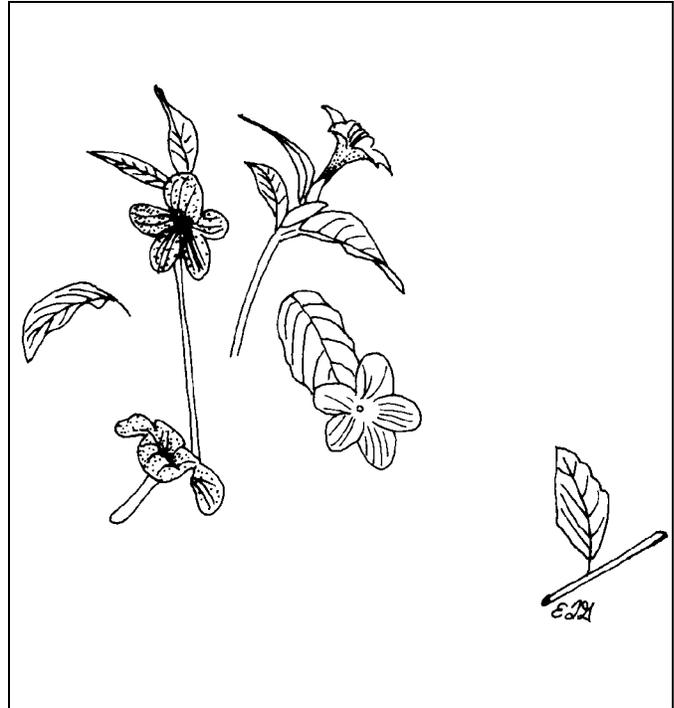


Figure 1. *Browallia*.

**Growth rate:** moderate

**Texture:** medium

### Foliage

**Leaf arrangement:** opposite/subopposite

**Leaf type:** simple

**Leaf margin:** entire

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Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

**Leaf shape:** ovate  
**Leaf venation:** pinnate  
**Leaf type and persistence:** not applicable  
**Leaf blade length:** 2 to 4 inches  
**Leaf color:** green  
**Fall color:** not applicable  
**Fall characteristic:** not applicable

**Flower**

**Flower color:** blue; purple  
**Flower characteristic:** showy

**Fruit**

**Fruit shape:** no fruit  
**Fruit length:** no fruit  
**Fruit cover:** no fruit  
**Fruit color:** not applicable  
**Fruit characteristic:** inconspicuous and not showy

**Trunk and Branches**

**Trunk/bark/branches:** not applicable  
**Current year stem/twig color:** green

**Current year stem/twig thickness:** medium

**Culture**

**Light requirement:** plant grows in part shade/part sun  
**Soil tolerances:** clay; sand; acidic; loam  
**Drought tolerance:**  
**Soil salt tolerances:** unknown  
**Plant spacing:** 6 to 12 inches

**Other**

**Roots:** not applicable  
**Winter interest:** not applicable  
**Outstanding plant:** not particularly outstanding  
**Invasive potential:** not known to be invasive  
**Pest resistance:** long-term health usually not affected by pests

## **Use and Management**

The seed germinates in two to three weeks at temperatures of 75-degrees F. Do not cover the seed with soil. The plants can be pinched to encourage bushiness. Browallia needs to be hardened off before planting outside. In USDA hardiness zones 10 and 11, plant in the fall for winter bloom.