Evolvulus glomeratus

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Introduction

This finely textured, dense, rounded, low-growing plant eventually becomes a grey-green carpet-like cover accented with a profusion of clear blue flowers (Fig. 1). In areas where hard freezes are infrequent, Blue Daze makes an attractive ground cover with sky blue flowers against the foil of small, silvery-green leaves. Working well as an edging plant, Blue Daze will cascade over the side of a raised planter, container or hanging basket. Small trees are set off very nicely when planted in a bed of Blue Daze. The abundant, small flowers close in the afternoon. New ones open in the morning.

General Information

Scientific name: Evolvulus glomeratus
Pronunciation: ee-VOLV-yoo-lus glom-mur-RAY-tus
Common name(s): Blue Daze
Family: Convolvulaceae
Plant type: annual; perennial; herbaceous
USDA hardiness zones: 9B through 11 (Fig. 2)
Planting month for zone 9: Apr; May; Jun; Jul; Aug; Sep
Planting month for zone 10 and 11: Feb; Mar; Apr; May; Jun; Jul; Aug; Sep; Oct; Nov; Dec
Origin: not native to North America
Uses: mass planting; border; edging; container or above-ground planter; naturalizing; hanging basket; cascading down a wall
Availability: generally available in many areas within its hardiness range

Description

Height: .5 to 1 feet
Spread: 1 to 2 feet
Plant habit: round
Plant density: dense
Growth rate: moderate
Texture: fine

Figure 1. Blue Daze.
Foliage

Leaf arrangement: alternate
Leaf type: simple
Leaf margin: entire
Leaf shape: elliptic (oval)
Leaf venation: pinnate
Leaf type and persistence: semi-evergreen
Leaf blade length: less than 2 inches
Leaf color: blue or blue-green
Fall color: not applicable
Fall characteristic: not applicable

Flower

Flower color: blue
Flower characteristic: year-round flowering

Fruit

Fruit shape: unknown
Fruit length: unknown
Fruit cover: unknown
Fruit color: unknown
Fruit characteristic: inconspicuous and not showy

Trunk and Branches

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

Culture

Light requirement: plant grows in part shade/part sun
Soil tolerances: slightly alkaline; sand; acidic; loam
Drought tolerance: moderate
Soil salt tolerances: unknown
Plant spacing: 12 to 18 inches

Other

Roots: not applicable
Winter interest: no special winter interest
Outstanding plant: plant has outstanding ornamental features and could be planted more
Invasive potential: not known to be invasive

Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.
**Pest resistance:** long-term health usually not affected by pests

**Use and Management**

Once established, Blue Daze does not require additional watering, in the eastern US, surviving on almost any soil in full sun to partial shade with light fertilizations. Flowering is slightly reduced in partial shade. The leaves wilt during drought but recover with rain. This is almost a no maintenance plant. Plant on 18 to 24-inch centers in an area with good air circulation to prevent fungal infection. Fortunately, the plant is fast-growing and is easily replaced if the fungus problem occurs.

Propagation is by seed or cuttings.

**Pests and Diseases**

Blue Daze is susceptible to fungus diseases during rainy season. The soil needs to be well-drained to help prevent root rot.