

Botanical Name: Agave shawii x attenuata 'Blue Flame'

Common Name: Blue Flame Agave Family: Agavaceae

Type of Plant: Monocot: succulent, monocarpic Character: Evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape Individual rosettes 2-1/2 to 3' tall and wide forming much larger clumps; soft leaves are glaucous blue inwardly turned tips with terminal spine

Height: 2-3' (4') Spread: Clumps 8-10' Growth Rate: Slow

Environment:

Exposure Full sun, but will take very light shade

Soil Any well-draining soil

Hardiness Zones 13, 20-24

Morphology:

Leaves Leaves flexible with finely serrate margins and terminal spine, glaucous blue waxy cuticle and inwardly curved tips give appearance of 'flame'

Flowers Main straight or arching spike-like panicle to 20' surrounded by smaller subsidiary inflorescences, yellow flowers in small clusters along stalk

Fruit Fertile seeds are flat black disc, and produces many infertile seeds

Propagation: Division and seed

Usage: Beautiful clumping 'soft' agave, for its lovely blue color and graceful form; in containers, masses, on slopes. Plant where soft leaves are protected from damage

Landscape Care:

Watering Little when established, avoid overhead water to maintain glaucous blue cuticle

Fertilizing None

Pruning Remove dead leaves only

Pests/Diseases Agave weevil, fungus in less than optimum conditions

Other _____

Origin: Hybrid between A. shawii & A. attenuata by Dave Verity, UCLA Mildred E. Mathias Botanical Garden, circa 1960