

Botanical Name: Ceanothus 'Julia Phelps'

Common Name: No common name

Type of Plant: dicot: shrub Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape a stiffly branched, upright cultivar of Ceanothus, with intricate lateral branching to form a wide-spreading mounded canopy when mature; rather globular-rounded when young

Height 5' - 6' Spread 6'-8' or more Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun preferred in Coastal plain areas; tolerates some afternoon shade at inland sites

Soil requires well-draining sites; let soil dry out between watering

Hardiness hardy (zones 14-24): thrives in warm coastal-influenced habitats

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate, crowded on stems (alternate), very dark green, oval, 3/4"-1" long; veins deeply furrowed on upper surface of leaf

Flowers dark indigo blue, tiny, in oval inflorescences about 1" long; very prolific bloomer; March - April

Fruit if present, a tiny capsule

Propagation: softwood or semi-softwood cuttings

Usage: an excellent choice for large filler or background massing, or informal screening - very showy while in bloom, then useful for its dark green foliage and form; woodlands or Mediterranean themes

Landscape Care:

Watering an occasional deep soaking during the dry months - allow soil to dry out between irrigation

Fertilizing little is required after establishment

Pruning little needed; avoid stub-cutting of branches

Pests/Diseases scale, mealybug in shaded areas; root-rot in wet soils

Special Conditions rather short-lived (7-10 years common)

Origin: hybrid Family: Rhamnaceae