

Botanical Name: Echium fastuosum

Common Name: Pride of Madeira

Type of Plant: dicot: perennial Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape large, shrubby, loosely constructed plant with coarse, hairy foliage and large spikes of blue or purple flowers held above foliage

Height 3-6' Spread 4-8' Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun

Soil does best in well-drained areas

Hardiness hardy (zones 14-24)

Morphology:

Leaves elliptical, blue-gray, to 8" long, hairy on upper and lower surfaces

Flowers large vertical panicles of dark purple or blue flowers, spikes to 18" tall, flowers 1/2" across--blooms in May or June

Fruit small nutlets

Propagation: seed

Usage: large filler or accent plant; can be used at the back of herbaceous perennial borders; effective accent plant in raised beds mixed with native plants

Landscape Care:

Watering takes average watering--tolerates some drought; needs almost no irrigation in coastal areas

Fertilizing slow-release at planting time, or in early spring

Pruning head back lightly after bloom--remove dead flowers

Pests/Diseases root rot where drainage is poor

Special Conditions does well in seacoast conditions

Origin: Canary Is., Azore Is., N. Africa Family: Boraginaceae