

Botanical Name: Aristea ecklonii

Common Name: Aristea

Type of Plant: monocot: perennial Family Iridaceae

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape Upright clump of iris-like leaves, but plants are smaller and finer textured than most iris; small blue flowers held well above foliage

Height to 2 ft. Spread to 4 ft. Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun to partial shade

Soil tolerates most any soil with good drainage

Hardiness Hardy (zones 8,9, 12-24)

Morphology:

Leaves Linear, stiff, distinctly veined, medium green iris-like leaves to 2 ft. long, 1" across

Flowers small terminal clusters of 1/2" blue iris-like flowers

Fruit fleshy capsules to 1" long; very aggressive self-seeder

Propagation: seed, division

Usage: good small accent plant in dry landscapes; good in areas with limited water and little maintenance; plant is less aggressive in areas with no extra irrigation

Landscape Care:

Watering keep fairly dry to slow growth and discourage self-seeding

Fertilizing slow-release at planting; add iron if chlorosis appears

Pruning remove spent flowers and stems to prevent self-seeding

Pests/Diseases none

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Origin: South Africa