

Botanical Name: Sisyrinchium bellum

Common Name: Blue-eyed Grass

Type of Plant: monocot: perennial Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape a small grasslike plant with low clumping habit; rather iris-like in appearance; leaves are erect from basal stem

Height 6"-12"(18") Spread equal Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun required; avoid shade at locations near coast

Soil drier, well-draining sites preferred

Hardiness hardy (zones 4-24): thrives in warm coastal foothill/valley

Morphology:

Leaves grasslike, blue-green, 6"-19" long; arising from the basal clump; tend to die back to ground in mid-summer

Flowers blue-violet, 6-petaled, 1/2"-3/4" across; borne on slender 3"-6" stalks; March - May

Fruit a capsule: tiny, 1/8" round

Propagation: seed; division of clump

Usage: good for use with annual wildflower seed mixes, for a colorful display of flowers; informal low border or facer plantings in warm sunny locations

Landscape Care:

Watering little is needed after establishment; avoid excessive irrigation in adobe soils

Fertilizing none

Pruning cut back old dead leaves in summer

Pests/Diseases root rot in poorly draining soils

Special Conditions

Origin: foothill meadows/chaparral of Cen./S. Ca. Family: Iridaceae