

Botanical Name: Pseuderanthemum laxiflorum 'Shooting Stars'

Common Name: Amethyst stars, Shooting stars

Type of Plant: dicot: houseplant Family Acanthaceae

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape upright to sprawling fine-textured tropical plant with a
profusion of unscented lavender flowers

Height to 3 ft. Spread to 3 ft. Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure indoors bright light preferred; tolerates patio conditions well

Soil average potting soil

Hardiness tender to frost; prefers indoor conditions

Morphology:

Leaves narrowly to broadly elliptical, dark green and glossy, to 4"
long on mature specimens; paler green beneath

Flowers 1" long tubular flowers opening into 5 split petals, white,
cerise and lavender varieties are available

Fruit tiny capsule

Propagation: stem cuttings any time

Usage: patio hanging basket plant for nearly continuous flower
display; florist's specimen plant; sometimes used in tropical gardens in atria or
shopping malls

Landscape Care:

Watering need regular watering, not drought tolerant

Fertilizing balanced, half strength fertilizer monthly

Pruning dead head occasionally, head back to induce bushiness

Pests/Diseases aphids, mealybug

Other

Origin: Polynesia, New Caledonia to Fiji