

Botanical Name: Iris brevicaulis

Common Name: Zigzag iris, Louisiana iris

Type of Plant: monocot: perennial Family Iridaceae

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape spreading rhizomatous iris with gray-green narrow foliage and dark blue flowers accented with yellow markings

Height to 20 in. Spread to 3 ft. Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun to partial shade

Soil prefers a well-amended moist soil with good drainage

Hardiness hardy, Zones 3-23

Morphology:

Leaves narrow, grasslike leaves to 18" long, gray-green and narrow, to 1/2" wide, no prominent midrib

Flowers iris flower in colors of purplish blue, in groups of 3 with yellow markings on the falls; multiple flowers can form zigzag pattern on stems

Fruit 3-valved capsule

Propagation: division; some growers hybridize with other Iris species

Usage: highly regarded perennial border plant when conditions allow for free flowering; a difficult plant to grow in heavy, hot soils; provide moist conditions with good drainage for best blooming

Landscape Care:

Watering likes regular watering; do not allow to dry out

Fertilizing slow release fertilizer in spring after bloom

Pruning pinch off dead blooms

Pests/Diseases flea beetles; best to apply a systemic insecticide for control

Other

Origin: Southeastern North America