

Botanical Name: Plumbago auriculata

Common Name: Cape plumbago

Type of Plant: dicot; shrub Character semi-deciduous

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape upright to sprawling with thin, rather weak stems,  
spreading up and out to form a loosely rounded canopy

Height 10-15' Spread 15-25' Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun to partial shade

Soil tolerates most

Hardiness hardy (zones 8,9,12-24); prefers warm coastal areas

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate, alternate-whorled, elliptic-oval-obovate, light  
green, 1/2-2" long, stipules at base of leaves

Flowers light sky blue, tubular, loose terminal panicles, 5 lobed,  
1-2" long, spring-late fall

Fruit tiny capsule

Propagation: softwood/semihardwood cuttings

Usage: large background mass or informal screen for its heavy  
display of blue flowers, erosion control, espalier

Landscape Care:

Watering prefers regular, tolerates some drought

Fertilizing balanced in spring

Pruning head back and thin out to promote new growth

Pests/Diseases aphids

Special Conditions

Origin: South Africa Family: Plumbaginaceae